Simply the Best.
Health in Harmony.
#1 Academic Medical Center in the Nation
BRONSON Methodist Hospital
bronsonhealth.com/100Top
Modern Healthcare 100 Top Hospitals 2026

Connecting you with your community

PAW PAW FLASHES

FREE

May 14, 2026

PUBLISHED BY WILCOX NEWSPAPERS • PO Box 189 • Allegan, MICHIGAN 49010 • 269-657-3072

National Day Of Prayer observed

The 75th anniversary of National Day of Prayer was marked Thursday, May 7, with the Greater Paw Paw Area National Day of Prayer Gathering at the County Park in downtown Paw Paw. Several prayers were lifted by area residents, focusing on government, law enforcement, military, media, the arts, business, education, church and family. Pastor Buddy Turner, of First Baptist, Church, Paw Paw, is shown at left with Rick Boyd, pastor of Dwelling Place Ministries Int'l. Musical selections were provided by children at Trinity Lutheran School, Paw Paw, under the direction of Alison Mroczek.

Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

Man dies after being hit by train in Decatur

A 66-year-old man died on Saturday, May 9, after he was hit by a train in Decatur, according to the Decatur Police Department.

The Decatur Police Department reported an Amtrak passenger train hit the man at approximately 10:45 a.m., after he walked around the railroad crossing arms at south Williams Street, unaware of the incoming train.

Authorities said foul play is not suspected and reported the incident as a "tragic accident."

The man's name was not released, pending notification of his family, according to the police department.

Trinity Lutheran School salutes America

Louis Chevrolet (Chase Lawson)

Laura Haviland (Sophia Flory)

Ethel Ryba (Amy Fielhauer)

Mike Ilitch (Braylen Dalian)

Dr. Jan Pol (Jack Tripp)

Benjamin Franklin (Jacob Barbre)

First through fifth grade students at Trinity Lutheran School, Paw Paw, shared a special evening on May 11, in honor of our nation's 250th birthday celebration. Under the guidance of teacher, Kelly Docsa, first and second grade students displayed individual dioramas and posters which focused on the American Community. Each student explained the particular composition of the community (church, school, village, rural, urban) they chose to study. Third through fifth grade students presented "A Night of Notables," the 30th anniversary of this special school program.

Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

First through fifth grade students at Trinity Lutheran School, Paw Paw, shared a special evening on May 11, in honor of our nation's 250th birthday celebration. Under the guidance of teacher, Kelly Docsa, first and second grade students displayed individual dioramas and posters which focused on the American Community. Each student explained the particular composition of the community (church, school, village, rural, urban) they chose to study.

Third through fifth grade students presented "A Night of Notables," the 30th anniversary of this special school program. According to Deanna Hindenach, her Michigan History third grade students chose and researched notable people from Michigan's past. After completing research, writing an account as an autobiography and dressing in period costume, each student delivered a speech about the life and accomplishments of the following famous Michiganians: Lewis Cass (Lucas Meyer), Louis Chevrolet (Chase Lawson), Laura Haviland (Sophia Flory), Ethel Ryba (Amy Fielhauer), Mike Ilitch (Braylen Dalian),and Dr. Jan Pol (Jack Tripp).

Fourth and fifth grade students chose notables from the Colonial/Civil War era of American History. Their teacher, Andrea Barbre, introduced each student who was dressed in period costume and delivered a speech about his or her life and each person's contributions to our country. Famous notables were: Benjamin Franklin (Jacob Barbre), George Washington (Eli Fuchs), Sacajawea (Sophie Burleson), Abraham Lincoln (Lucas Barbre), Sojourner Truth (Addisyn Smith), and Elizabeth Cady Stanton (Olivia Bogda).

The evening ended with many accolades and an ice cream social in the parish hall.

George Washington (Eli Fuchs)

Sacajawea (Sophie Burleson)

Abraham Lincoln (Lucas Barbre)

Sojourner Truth (Addisyn Smith)

Elizabeth Cady Stanton (Olivia Bogda).

SERVICE DIRECTORY

BANGOR MINI STORAGE
31375 52 STREET, BANGOR MICHIGAN 49013
$10 OFF THE MONTH OF MAY
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
269-674-1330

THE SHED SELF STORAGE
LAWTON, MI
THESHEDSELFSTORAGE.COM
269-200-2156

WET BASEMENT? WET CRAWL SPACE?
We fix it right! We fix it for life!
Dry basements since 1987
RJ WATERPROOFING
269-337-7660

ROLLING ACRES MINI BARNS
TOP RATED SHED BUILDER
Outdoor saunas, Sheds & barns,
Greenhouses, Outhouses, Tiny Homes,
Custom Swing Sets
Dog Houses & Chicken Coops, Horse Stables
Business hours
Mon - Sat 8:00am-8:00pm
Sunday Closed
58332 48th Ave, Lawrence, MI 49064
269-363-0599

Rabbit Hole Comics
OPEN
Tuesday - Saturday
12pm to 8pm
Sunday and Monday
by appointment only
Rabbithole comics
441 East Main Street, Hartford, MI 49057
269-621-5274 • rabbithole-comics.com

COUNTY LINE NURSERIES SINCE 1942
DESIGN AND INSTALL LOCAL PLANT MATERIALS GROWN AT OUR OWN NURSERY
outdoor spaces, paver walks, pergolas
large variety of locally grown trees
decorative shrubs and greenery
new industry leading products
irrigation systems
outdoor kitchens
CALL MIKE AT 269.621.4543
www.CountyLineNurseries.net
Like us on Facebook.
Competitive pricing, cutting out the middleman.
Special discounts for Veterans and Seniors.

LICENSED & INSURED
GREENSHIELD INSULATION
FREE ESTIMATES!
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
(269) 743-3121
Spray Foam | Blown-in Attic snd Wall Insulation | Removals
greenshieldinsulationco.com
MATTAWAN, MI.

HOUSE PAINTING
THE PAINTER
Interior & Exterior Home Painting
Pressure Washing
George
(269) 767-5700

WE CAN DO IT ALL!!
NO JOB TOO BIG • NO JOB TOO SMALL
Interior/ Exterior Remodels Kitchens Framing Drywall Flooring Baths
HB HANDYMAN SERVICES
269-599-8532
Soffit/ Facia Pressure Washing Roofing Siding Decks etc.
Owner Chris Hardenbrook
Chardenbrook82@gmail.com
Residential/Commercial
Free Estimates!!

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN HEARING SERVICES LLC
PREMIUM HEARING AIDS AT $3800
269-350-4852
www.swmihearing.com
24208 Front Ave., Unit A-6, Mattawan, MI 49071

OFFICE: 269-375-1425
WESTON SEPTIC, LLC
RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL
• Septic Tank Pumping • Install Risers
NOW HIRING!
Linda & Russ Weston, Owners

Mother Mary's Midwifery Services
(269) 655-7765
mothermarysmidwifery@gmail.com
Serving Southwest MI
RESPECTFUL, EMPOWERING CARE
Honoring bodily autonomy and supporting Informed decision-making
Inclusive care for a diverse clientele
• Offers preconception and prenatal care
• Birth and postpartum care for 6 weeks
• Newborn care for 6 weeks after delivery
• Lactation support
• Car seat education
• Nutrition counseling & child birth education
Home births and birth center options available

Plain Jane's Antiques
269-929-6162
seejaneshop@yahoo.com
DOWNTOWN PAW PAW
229 E. Michigan Ave • Paw Paw, MI 49079
• Vintage • Old Books • Rustic Decor • Rescued Attic • Jewelry • Salvage • Furniture • Garden

Jaqua Realtors
SOUTH HAVEN'S TOP REAL ESTATE BROKER, 12 YEARS IN A ROW!
YOUR LAKESHORE REAL ESTATE EXPERT
Amy O'Sullivan
Associate Broker
AS SEEN ON HGTV
www.SoldByAmyO.com
513 Broadway St
South Haven, MI 49090
C.269.214.1257 | aosullivan@jaquarealtors.com

BATES HOME REMODELING
Brent Bates
Bates5601@gmail.com
269-350-3350
Interior Trim
Tuck Pointing
Aluminum Trim
Pre-Hung Doors
Bee Removal
Carpentry
Tile Installed
Concrete Work
Deck Specialist

mckenziemi.com 269-657-2548
MCKENZIE INSURANCE
Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS
Insurance for what matters most to you, since 1945.

JESI WALLACE
HOME SERVICES INSTALL & REPAIR
Office: (269) 501-4331
(269) 716-6131
Call for your free estimate today!
Paw Paw, Michigan, & Surrounding Areas
www.homeservices-install.com
• Tub & Shower Replacements
• Hardwood, Tile and Flooring
• Interior Painting
• Reliable Home Repairs

Office Hours By Appointment
(269)427-7106
Craig M. Herrmann, D.D.S.
102 W. Monroe St.,
Bangor, Michigan 49013

OLIVE CART
Curating Noteworthy Flavors
oliveoilstoremichigan.com
424 PHOENIX ST
SOUTH HAVEN, MI
(269) 637-4754
421 STATE ST
ST. JOSEPH, MI
(269) 281-0120

Coastal Clean
housekeeping • home watch • handyman
Family Owned & Serving Southwest Michigan Since 2003
We're in your neighborhood!
• Residential cleaning
• Home Watch Services
• Commercial Cleaning
• Handyman Services
269-639-1515 • coastalclean.net

BOB TOLSMA PLUMBING
Bob Tolsma • 4215 Lincoln Rd., Holland, MI 49423
Office (616)836-1197 • bob@tolsmaplumbing.com
• New Construtions
• Remodels Insured
• Water heaters
• Water Softeners
• Water & Sewer Hookups
• 24 HR Emergency

CAR CONNECTION
AUTO BODY AND SALES
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1983
Auto Body • Collision Repair • Insurance Work
Paint • Minor rust repair • Auto sales
Hours of operation • Mon - Fri; 9am to 5pm
22671 Red Arrow Hwy.,Mattawan, MI 49071
269-668-2379 • carconn.abs@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SERVICES
We design to fit *your* lifestyle.
269-639-9000
www.LandscapeDS.com
A Bakker Family Business since 1968
Lawn Fertilization and Weed Control
Your Local Lawn & Landscape Experts

BRINKER BROTHERS OUTDOOR LIVING
CUSTOMIZE YOUR OUTDOOR LIVING
269-806-4141
SERVICES
Azenco Pergolas
MagnaTrack Motorized Screens
Outdoor Kitchens
Decks & Railings
Outdoor Lighting
Endless Outdoor Features
Check out our website to see everything we offer
brinkerbrothersoutdoorliving.com

EARL SANDERS & SON WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1943
Trouble with your water well?
Low Pressure?
Smelly Water?
No Water?
269-806-6730
Email: earlsandersinc@hotmail.com

AE ROOFING & CONTRACTING
Protecting SW Michigan Properties For Over 20 Years!
ROOFING | SIDING | GUTTERS
269-359-ROOF • aecroof.com • Paw Paw, MI

(269)501-0881
grantdalypainting@gmail.com
A+ Rating
GRANT DALY PAINTING, LLC
"Let me take the pain out of painting"
Quality Work Reasonable Rates References
Residential Commercial Free Estimates
Interior Exterior Dry-wall Repair
Serving Southwest Michigan

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Paper IT'S EASY
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspaper.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

2ND FRONT PAGE

Van Buren ISD earns top honors at Roadeo

LAWRENCE - The Van Buren Intermediate School District (VBISD) Transportation Department, led by Terry Lechenet, served as host for the 2026 Annual School Bus ROAD-EO, an event designed to showcase the exceptional skill, professionalism, and dedication of school bus drivers across the region.

The ROAD-EO provides drivers with the opportunity to demonstrate their expertise through a series of rigorous challenges focused on student safety and operational excellence. Competitions included written assessments, obstacle navigation, tight turns, simulated passenger stops, safety inspections, and additional driving scenarios that reflect real-world transportation responsibilities.

This year, 46 drivers participated in the event, each demonstrating precision, knowledge, and a strong commitment to safely transporting students every day.

Van Buren ISD earned top honors as the Region 15 Team Champion. Special recognition goes to Jessie Goodrode for earning First Place overall and Mike Kelly for earning Third Place. Both drivers will advance to represent Region 15 at the State ROAD-EO competition this June.

Van Buren ISD extends its appreciation to all transportation staff members for the vital role they play in ensuring students arrive safely to and from school each day. Their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to safety continue to make a lasting impact on the students and families they serve.

Beach Boys tribute kickoff Warner concert series

A tribute band will play the Beach Boys' (pictured) greatest hits

Warner Vineyards 2026 Summer Concert Series will kick off Friday, May 22 with a tribute to The Beach Boys.

In a recent social media post, Warner Vineyards said, "We wanted to update you on our progress on our projects. We are behind schedule mainly due to Mother Nature and all her rain. Unfortunately, we will still be "under construction" for the first several weeks of the season. Everyone is working very hard to get things finished. So, thank you very much for your patience and understanding.

"We're building a grand new stage,120' riverside deck and adding 14/20'cargo containers 2/8 stall air-conditioned bathrooms, three food and beverage, one kitchen and one merchandise. Stacked above will be seven enclosed suites.

"We rescheduled the May 16 show to Sept. 11, and we had to cancel the Radiohead tribute. A refund will be given to anyone who can't make the Sept. 11 show. And an automatic refund for the Radiohead tribute.

The Warner family expressed thanks to their customers, sponsors, bands, construction workers and staff.

For more information about concert updates, visit: warnerwines.com

Former Paw Paw Township Supervisor David Richardson remembered for his community service

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - At the May 11 Paw Paw Township Board meeting, former Paw Paw Township Supervisor David Richardson, who passed away May 4, was remembered for his many years of service to the Paw Paw community.

Richardson served as Paw Paw Township Supervisor for 16 years, until his resignation on Nov. 20, 2016. He also served on the Paw Paw Village Council for nearly 20 years.

His community service included more than 60 years on the Paw Paw Volunteer Fire Department, where he served as fire chief in 1968 during the fire department's 100th anniversary.

Richardson also served on the Paw Paw Township Zoning Board of Appeals from 2018 to 2020.

Richardson was a Navy veteran, where he served four years, from 1951 to 1955.

The Township Board, following a roll call vote, approved a resolution of gratitude and appreciation of Richardson's community service.

The township board approved to lower township hall flags on Tuesday, May 12, and return them to full staff on Thursday, May 14, following Richardson's funeral.

you might not know we have life, home,
auto and business insurance. now you do.
simple human sense
MCKENZIE INSURANCE
303 E Michigan, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Hrs: Mon-Fri, 9-5; Sat by Appt.
mckenziemi.com • 269.657.2548
Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers.
IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnews papers.com
to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

Artist creates mural in downtown SH

Downtown South Haven is adorned by a new mural featuring a postcard-style interpretation of the community and highlighted by the historic lighthouse. The 60-foot-wide mural created in recent days is on the east wall of new Consumers Credit Union branch on Phoenix Street between Center and Kalamazoo Streets. It was created by muralist Kevin Wolfrom of Grand Rapids who is well known throughout western Michigan for his vibrant color palettes that blend local storytelling with a contemporary style. Photo by Tom Renner

South Haven City Council raises parking fees

By James Windell

With the adoption of an ordinance to amend Section 82-87 of the South Haven Code of Ordinances, parking fees and parking fines will officially increase.

At the May 4, 2026, regular City Council meeting the South Haven City Council reviewed the city staff proposal to increase metered parking rates and weekly permit rates as well as parking violation fees.

Previously, though, at the April 20, 2026, City Council meeting, the council adopted resolutions updating parking restrictions and parking fees. On May 4, the council was asked to consider a motion to adopt an ordinance amending the parking fees and the parking fines for violations at this second reading.

The parking fee violations are recommended to induce compliance with parking restrictions. Currently, the city's fees for parking violations are similar to fees for parking in neighboring communities. If approved, fines for parking violations would be increased to $45. If not paid within 7 days, the fine is increased to $75 and increased to $100 if not paid within 60 days.

With minimal discussion during this council meeting, the motion to adopt an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances was passed.

Starting on May 15, 2026, the price of a weekly beach parking pass goes from $30 to $50. The city is also getting rid of the flat $10 daily parking fee. Instead, beachgoers will be charged $3 per hour for parking. It is expected that these changes will produce $800,000 per year in revenue. The funds will be used for the city's newly restored lifeguard program, which is scheduled to begin on Memorial Day, and other beach projects, like changing rooms and bathrooms.

The current three-year beach parking permit is still available for $80, but this marks its final year, with the City Council likely to consider future options for beach parking permits in the fall.

SH DDA approves facade grant program

By James Windell

At their regular noon meeting at the South Haven City Hall on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) approved Resolution 2026-01.

This resolution was for approval of a Façade Grant Program which will be funded through tax increment financing (TIF).

As discussed in previous DDA meetings, the idea behind the grant program is that by making funds available to businesses in the downtown district the unique character and attractive renovation of the outside of some businesses could make the buildings more appealing to prospective tenants and increase business. At their meeting on March 4, 2026, the DDA voted to proceed with plans to initiate the Façade Grant Program after reviewing a draft of the program.

When implemented, grants would be available to property owners within the DDA district, who have a business in the district, and who are up to date on all property taxes. There would be a 50% matching component to the grant and funds could be used to update either front or rear facades of the building. The grant program would be under the auspices of the DDA.

During discussions at this most recent meeting, DDA Director, Sue Brock said that the program is likely to start on July 1, 2026. Brock also told the DDA that the City's finance director recommended starting with a $20,000 placeholder line item in the budget for the program. The DDA members seemed to agree that the $20,000 amount could possibly be adjusted in future years depending on the grants submitted and available funds. Brock indicated that if the full budgeted amount is not spent in any year, it does not "roll over" as an automatic increase.

It was also clarified during discussion that applicants must submit a complete package (including two bids, owner permission, photos, scope, and other required materials) before consideration. Awarding of grants would be on a first come, first-served basis and all awards would be subject to available funding, and at the DDA's sole discretion. The DDA retains discretion to award less than the maximum even if an applicant requests the full amount.

Some members raised concern that the resolution's wording "up to $20,000 per application" could be misread as allowing multiple $20,000 awards in a year; others noted that the annual budget controls total dollars available and the language is meant to preserve flexibility year to year.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2026-01 and the facade grant guidelines. The motion was supported and passed without any opposition.

Brock indicated that there will be a public rollout of the Facade Grant Program which is likely to be timed with the beginning of the fiscal year for DDA on or about July 1, 2026.

KITCHEN HELP WANTED

MUST WORK NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS.

APPLY AT BIG T 155 N MAIN, LAWTON

BIG BEAR CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

MEMORIAL DAY, Monday, May 25th @ 9:30 am
Located: 5580 M-140, Eau Claire, MI

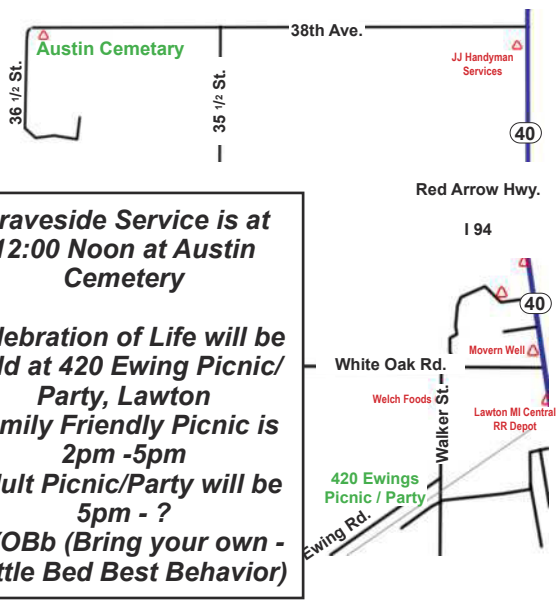
Equipment: Kubota 4X4 Compact Tractor w/ Backhoe & Loader • Bobcat S175 Skidloader • JD 3520 4X4 Compact Tractor w/ Loader • Mini Track Dump Cart • Stand On Track Loader • Polaris Brutus Side by Side Diesel w/ Loader • Misc Farm Equipt **Collector Auto/Boat:** Ford Model A Pickup • Ski Supreme Boat • Scooters • Mini Motorcycle **Lawn Equipment:** Bad Boy Zero Turn • Cub Cadet ZT 60 • Cub Electric Zero Turn • Lawn Tractors • Lawn Vac • Push Mowers • Hand & Power Tools • Portable Hog Roaster **Collectibles:** Vintage Woodworking Tools • Two Huge Estates with Primitives • Cast Iron • Collectible Glassware • House Of David Collectibles • Tramp Art Boxes • Green Canning Jars • Victorian Furniture • Costume Jewelry • Duck Decoys • Cross Bow • Costume Jewelry

Like us on Facebook and view live streams of each Auction
• BigBearAuctionCompany.Com •
Jerry & Aimee Glassman • 269-501-9732

NO NUKES! DAY OF ACTION
Victor McManemy
Great Lakes Troubadour
Great Lakes Brass Band
GREAT LAKES BRASS
Nothing is better than a concert
Except a free concert!
GREAT LAKES BRASS
What: A Rally, Free Concert, Marches, Press Conferrence
Where: Bronson Park & Downtown K'zu/Kalamazoo
When: Monday, May 18, Starting at 1 pm in Bronson Park
1pm ET -- Bring your lunch to picnic in Bronson Park with NO NUKES activists, organizers, & leaders from across the Great Lakes Basin! After lunch, leafleting with fliers inviting pedestrians to our rally, march, & press conference, as well as the opportunity to speak out & voice concerns at the City Commission meeting.
3-4pm ET -- Rally with the Great Lakes Brass Band in Bronson Park & march around the heart of downtown K'zu.
4pm-5pm ET -- Press Conference - Location TBA -- The steps of City Hall, Bronson Park bandshell or alternative.
5-6pm ET -- A second march around the heart of downtown Kalamazoo, led by the Great Lakes Brass Band.
7-9pm ET -- Public-facing City Commission meeting; Those who wish to speak out against Palisades' restart, "Small Modular Nuclear Reactor" new builds, and nuclear power can do so during the public comment time.
Members of Great Lakes Brass Band will also be playing at the Stamped Robin bar/restaurant beginning at 7pm
Joining together for a nuclear-free Great Lakes
https://dontwastemichigan.org/smnr.html
For more info.: Kevin Kamps, Don't Waste MI, (269) 217-6326, kevin.kamps@proton.me

Friends • Family • Co-Workers
Your Presence is Requested for 4 Celebrations of Life

Phyllis Ann Key (Nee) Fleming
Glenn Lewis Key
Lonnie Lee Ragan
Sharon Elaine Ragan



Graveside Service is at 12:00 Noon at Austin Cemetery

Celebration of Life will be held at 420 Ewing Picnic/ Party, Lawton
Family Friendly Picnic is 2pm -5pm
Adult Picnic/Party will be 5pm - ?
BYOBb (Bring your own - Bottle Bed Best Behavior)

Health in Harmony.
125 years ago, Bronson began with a promise. What started as one hospital has grown into a symphony of care - each milestone adding a new note, each team strengthening the harmony. Across southwest Michigan, our hospitals, providers and teams move in step, guided by one mission: the health of our communities.
This anniversary is more than a celebration; it's a reaffirmation. Through innovation, investment and an unwavering commitment to safety, we continue to strengthen every hospital and community we serve because world-class care should always be in harmony, and never far from home.
Bronson | Health in Harmony | 125 Years Strong
bronsonhealth.com/125
BRONSON

Small businesses in South Haven given briefing

By James Windell

The City of South Haven's Downtown Development Authority, the South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce, and Visit South Haven hosted the first South Haven Business Briefing on Wednesday, May 6, 2026.

An overflow number of participants packed the City Council Chambers at City Hall to hear speakers from each sponsoring organization offer timely updates, information on business resources, and insights into visitation trends and seasonal activity.

Speaking first, Sue Brock, the Director of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), said that each of three organizations would tell about who does what, how each group is funded, and how they support businesses. Brock said that the business briefing was timed to coincide with National Small Business Week, National Travel & Tourism Week, and National Economic Development Week.

Brock told the audience that DDA operates within a specific downtown district and funds projects via Tax Increment Financing (TIF), which restricts spending to eligible district-focused improvements.

She went on to say that DDA does not "put on events" due to TIF restrictions and the development plan. However, the DDA does fund and support such activities as displaying flowers in the downtown area and partnering to brighten up the city with holiday lights, supervising the ice rink and pavilion project, renovating restrooms at Dyckman Park, and improving wayfinding signage so visitors can better find parking and shops.

Following Brock was Brandy Key, Director of the South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce. She described the Chamber as a membership-based organization serving more than 460 members. Their mission, she said, is to build a vibrant and prosperous community and "have fun doing it."

Key noted that the Chamber has served the area for more than 90 years and is recognized across Michigan as a high-performing small chamber that serves South Haven, Bangor, Covert, and surrounding areas.

The Chamber does not receive grants or government funding and is funded primarily by member dues and event sponsorships. Their communications and services focus mostly on members, though the Chamber helps share broader community happenings when possible.

Among the kinds of support that the Chamber offers businesses is sharing timely business-impact information, providing business counseling and connections, and helping with certificates of origin for manufacturers to support international trade. The Chamber also partners with such organizations as Market One, Small Business Development Corporation, and the South Haven Regional Business Hub. Key said that the chamber also hosts Young Professionals group events "focused on building connections to retain young talent."

Jennifer Sistrunk, Director of Visit South Haven, talked about her organization. She said that Visit South Haven is the rebranding of the former Visitor and Convention Bureau. Now, Visit South Haven is the destination marketing organization for the entire county, including the Destination Paw Paw brand.

She said that Visit South Haven is funded 100% by visitors via a 5% lodging assessment paid by overnight guests. The core responsibilities of Visit South Haven include managing the destination brand and promoting the area regionally, nationally and even internationally. They use traditional marketing (such as billboards, print, TV, and radio) and digital marketing, including social media, "to drive traffic to southhaven.org."

In addition, Visit South Haven offers free support for businesses that include free business listings on southhaven.org. At the Visit South Haven office, businesses can drop off brochures and flyers and also pick up brochures.

Visit South Haven partners with West Michigan Tourist Association, Pure Michigan, Destinations International, Michigan Sports Commission, and Michigan Beach Towns regional co-op. Among the promotions and events that Visit South Haven runs and/or supports is "Dine on Us," "Cinema and Stay," Holiday in the Park, and their biggest event of the year the New Year's Eve celebration.

Assistant City Manager Michael Landis closed the meeting by encouraging networking among the attendees. "Meet someone new because businesses can help each other," he said. He reinforced the "three pillars" of the community – the DDA and the City, the Chamber of Commerce, and Visit South Haven – and emphasized that each plays a different role, but all three can coordinate on business ideas and community projects.

Landis pointed out that the City of South Haven supports helping navigate business needs like staffing and training, marketing challenges, market growth, and identifying grant resources. He ended his remarks by inviting businesses to engage and to feel free to call on the City for assistance. "Our doors are open," he said.

The next Business Briefing will be held on September 23, 2026 at the City Hall.

Record-Breaking Performances: 2Paw Robotics' historic return to the world stage

By Ben Tomlinson
President
Team 5462 2Paw Robotics

PAW PAW - For Team 5462, 2Paw Robotics, the 2026 season was a masterclass in growth, tactical consistency, and student leadership. By qualifying for the FIRST World Championships in Houston, Texas, the team completed its third historic run to the world stage (2015, 2022, and 2026), solidifying Paw Paw as a premier hub for student engineering.

Technological Evolution: Taking it to the Next Level

The leap in performance this year was fueled by significant technical upgrades that pushed the team's robot to its highest potential. While the program has always boasted a strong driving and operating crew, two major engineering milestones sent 2Paw to a new level of play:

•Swerve Drive Mastery: The team implemented a perfectly tuned swerve drive module, allowing the robot to move with omnidirectional agility. This maneuverability was key to outplaying opponents in high-traffic areas of the field.

•Precision Autonomous Paths: The programming team designed incredibly efficient autonomous paths, allowing the robot to operate independently during the start of each match. These well-executed routines consistently earned the team extra points that often made the difference in close games.

Building a Legacy of Success

Throughout the season, 2Paw Robotics redefined their standard for excellence. Their technical precision was recognized by judges and competitors alike, as they brought home two major awards during district play: the Excellence in Engineering Award at Berrien Springs and the Creativity Award at Battle Creek.

On the field, the team set new school records for qualification wins at both district events. Their consistency made them a force to be reckoned with in the postseason; the team led their alliances to the Semi-Finals in both of their district competitions and maintained that elite level of play to secure another Semi-Finals appearance at the Michigan State Championships in Saginaw Valley.

Strategic Precision and Student Leadership

What truly sets this journey apart is a philosophy unique to FIRST Robotics: Coopertition®. This concept blends fierce competition with a foundation of mutual gain. In the tournament format, teams are randomly assigned to alliances that change every match, requiring students to collaborate with different partners to solve complex problems under pressure.

While 2Paw Robotics is known for its willingness to help other teams, the program has also developed a reputation for strategic precision. The team consistently gains a unique edge over opponents by being incredibly calculated with their partnerships. By identifying the specific strengths of their alliance partners and weaving them into a sophisticated game plan, 2Paw often outmaneuvers teams that may have more raw power but less tactical depth.

Central to this success is the team's commitment to being student-led. 2Paw Robotics takes immense pride in the fact that the students are the ones doing the work, running the team, and making all the final decisions. From engineering the swerve drive to navigating high-stakes alliance selections, every move is a product of student ingenuity and leadership.

Competing with the World's Best

This blend of student-led innovation and high-level strategy fueled a spectacular performance in Houston. 2Paw Robotics delivered a strong first day of competition, maintaining a high rank that kept them in serious contention for a playoff pick. While they narrowly missed the final brackets in a field of hundreds of international teams, their performance on the first day was the strongest World Championship showing in the program's history. Beyond the scoreboard, the team spent the week sharing engineering solutions and building lasting friendships with students from around the globe.

A Hero's Journey

The season was bookended by an outpouring of local support, including a community-wide police escort on Monday, April 27th, that saw the team off through downtown Paw Paw. Throughout the journey, the team's success was built on a foundation of clear communication and the ability to work seamlessly with others. By effectively bridging technical gaps and fostering a collaborative environment within their alliances, 2Paw proved that the greatest victories come to those who play the game with a smart, tactical edge and a spirit of true partnership.

2026 Season Highlights:

•Record-Breaking Performances: Completed the program's third-ever trip to the World Championships.

•Student-Led Excellence: Proudly maintained a student-driven environment for all technical and strategic decisions.

•Technical Milestones: Successfully deployed a tuned swerve drive and high-scoring autonomous paths.

•Award Winners: Earned the Excellence in Engineering and Creativity awards.

•Playoff Contenders: Reached the Semi-Finals at both Districts and the State Championship.

•New Benchmarks: Set new all-time school records for wins at both the District and State levels.

Helping businesses move forward
Zach Morris joins Sturgis Bank with a proven track record in economic development—supporting projects that created 1,300+ jobs and drove meaningful investment across our region.
Now, he's working with businesses in Van Buren County to navigate challenges and move forward with confidence.
Zach Morris
AVP, Business Development, Van Buren County
(574) 850-4866
zmorris@sturgis.bank
STURGIS BANK
Member FDIC

BANKSON
SOLAR PROJECT

Please Join Us!

Bankson Solar Project
Public Information Meeting

Join us to learn more about this proposed solar project in Porter Township. Hors d'oeuvres provided.

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Old Winery
646 North St,
Lawton, MI 49065

Check us out online:
BanksonSolarProject.com

For questions regarding this meeting, please contact:
Anna Chalupa
Development Manager
connect@banksonsolarproject.com

BNK-PA2062-05112026

VIEWPOINT

One Vote Can Change Everything – remember the tie vote in Hopkins

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX ■ PUBLISHER ■

If anyone still doubts whether one vote matters, they need only look to what happened last Tuesday in Hopkins, a school district in Allegan County. In what some say was a record turnout, a bond issue did not pass because because someone failed to vote.

Voters were asked to decide on a $110 million school bond proposal to improve school safety, upgrade classrooms, and replace the district's aging middle school. When all the ballots were counted, the result was remarkable: 1,091 votes in favor and 1,091 votes against.

An exact tie.

Because ballot proposals require a majority to pass, the bond failed.

That means a decision affecting the future of an entire school district came down to a single vote. One more person showing up to vote could have changed everything.

If that does not prove the power of one ballot, nothing will.

Local Elections Shape Our Daily Lives

Many people assume that local elections are less important than presidential contests. In reality, decisions made in school, primary and general elections affect nearly every aspect of our lives. To this writer, local; elections are actually much more important than state or national elections. We can't influence what the President of the United States might do or say, but locally you have, if you wish, major say on how officials act.

Voters help decide:

Who serves on school boards

How tax dollars are spent

Whether roads and bridges are repaired

Public safety funding

Local development and zoning decisions

State and federal representation

Although the August Primary and certainly the November General Election are months away, we need to keep in mind the importance of voting.

Primary elections often receive much lower turnout than general elections, yet they can be just as consequential.

In many races, the primary determines which candidates advance to the November ballot. Sometimes the winner of the primary is all but assured of winning the general election.

That means decisions affecting your community may be made by a relatively small number of voters.

When turnout is low, every ballot carries even more weight.

Whether you are concerned about your children's schools, your retirement savings, the cost of living, or the future of your community, elections provide your opportunity to help shape those decisions.

Democracy Works Only When We Participate

Voting is one of the most powerful rights Americans possess. It allows every citizen to have an equal voice, regardless of wealth or status.

The Hopkins bond issue is a vivid reminder that every single vote counts.

One vote can:

Pass or defeat a proposal

Break a tie

Elect a candidate

Change the direction of a community

As the August primary and November general election approach, remember Hopkins.

Remember 1,091 to 1,091.

Remember that history is often shaped by ordinary people who take a few minutes to cast a ballot.

Do not assume others will decide for you.

Do not assume your vote will not matter.

And do not stay home.

Because in America, one vote can make all the difference.

Sheriff's Report-Cyclist dies in motorcycle - truck crash

Van Buren County Sheriff's Office Uniform Response handled a fatal motorcycle Crash in Waverly Township. "The crash involved a motorcycle and pickup truck collision in which the motorcycle rider lost his life. The accident remains under investigation," said Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott.

Van Buren County Sheriff's Office Deputy Cody Anderson attended Police Response to an Active Shooter Instructor Course. Deputy Al Doorlag attended Control Tactics Instructor School. "Both are now instructors in these fields and will be able to pass their knowledge on by instructing on what they've learned," said Sheriff Abbott.

"I would like to personally thank everyone who attended the Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry fundraising banquet. It was a great turnout and a great evening hearing all the success they are having in our jail. It was nice being able to speak with so many of the attendees there," said Sheriff Abbott.

"A shout out to Girl Scout Troop 609, Mattawan. They donated and delivered items to our animal control shelter. Thank you," said Sheriff Abbott.

Uniform Response handled a traffic crash in Paw Paw Village in which a loaded Paw Paw School Bus was involved. "There were no injuries to anyone on the bus, however, the at-fault truck driver was transported to the hospital. It appears that a medical issue caused the crash to happen," said Sheriff Abbott.

Uniform Response handled an MDOP (malicious destruction of property) in Hamilton Township. The victim's truck was parked on the side of the road overnight and had the truck cap window broken during that time. Anyone with any information on this is asked to call our office," said Sheriff Abbott.

"Uniform Response handled a fraud/scam incident in Waverly Township. The victim received a call they thought was from Apple and were advised they owed money. Unfortunately, personal information was given out and later discovered it was a scam," said Sheriff Abbott.

"Our Narcotic Unit received information on a wanted subject in the City of South Haven. Detectives confirmed that the individual in question was wanted, and indeed he was on multiple warrants out of multiple jurisdictions. Detectives were able to get him in a vehicle and place him in custody. A search of the vehicle was done after probable cause was found, and detectives recovered numerous amounts of paraphernalia such as methamphetamine, prescription medication, digital scale, and several syringes containing an unknown liquid (which was sent to the lab to be tested). The suspect was lodged on the new charges as well as the warrants out of Detroit, Berrien County, Allegan County, and our County," said Sheriff Abbott.

"This past week was Correctional Officers' Appreciation Week. Our staff at the office that does that job 24/7 is truly one of the best in the state. It is a job that requires a lot of training, certified to do, and very stressful on a regular basis at times. If you think about it, they are taking care of individuals who are violent, at times are facing life sentences, etc., so they are at risk of danger every day they work. I am truly blessed as the sheriff to have the professionals here in that capacity at our office. Thank you, correction deputies for all you do," said Sheriff Abbott.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Stop Palisades from restarting

To the Editor:

I'm writing about the urgent need to stop Palisades Nuclear Power Plant from restarting. I've followed this issue for decades, working with many environmental groups and neighborhoods & cities by Palisades to get this troubled plant shut down. Former Senator Fred Upton (St. Joseph) along with the Michigan Public Service Commission forced the shut down of Palisades earlier than proposed in 2022, "because of an abundance of caution, there was control rod failures, and the plant's conditions were dangerous, for all of SW Michigan."

In 2012 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) declared Palisades, after several serious incidents, lawsuits and radioactive leaks since its opening in 1970, "one of the four worst performing nuclear plants in the U.S." In 2013, three of the those plants shut down……

Holtec, a questionable New Jersey company, (N.Y. Times 1/30/24 Holtec $5 million fine), that specializes in closing down nuclear power plants, took ownership of Palisades two years later to clean up buried atomic waste off the beaches and the plant, to complete the decommissioning of this troubled 52 year old plant.

Instead, after not doing the job they were hired to do, they announced, with no public meetings or input in 2024 "Holtec is restarting Palisades, and will run the plant." Holtec has never operated a nuclear power plant, much less the "worst nuclear power plant in the U.S." Many of us that live around the plant were shocked and stunned by this announcement.

Longtime nuclear engineer Arnie Gundersen reported to the NRC in April 2026, that Framatome, Holtec's engineering contractor admitted "the soon to be restart of Palisades atomic reactor cannot operate more than 14.5 months without the probability of burst of dangerously degraded, critical, steam generator tubes." Gundersen went on to report that "Framatome used 50,000 computer runs to try for better results, but determined that Palisades cannot operate safely." Yet, Holtec continues to ignore these and other findings from their own engineering company.

Michigan's big three energy companies, DTE, Great Lakes Energy and Consumers Energy all turned down Holtec's offer to buy power from them when and if they open, Holtec plans to sell to Indiana Power. Why should SW Michiganders have this Time-Bomb in our backyard and on the shores of Lake Michigan?

This is an experiment, a nuclear power plant has Never been restored in the U.S., much less one with an appalling record. It is about waste, fraud and abuse. So far $3.12 Billion dollars of taxpayers monies, with zero oversight has been given to Holtec.

For more information contact: The Environmental coalition opposing the restart of Palisades: Don't Waste Michigan, Michigan Safe Energy Future, Beyond Nuclear & Nuclear Energy Information Services of Chicago.

Priscilla Massie

OBITUARIES

Danny Overstreet

Danny Overstreet passed away peacefully at his home in Detroit on May 1, 2026, surrounded by loved ones, due to complications from Agent Orange.

Born in Detroit in 1948 and raised in Garden City, Dan was a decorated Vietnam veteran, artist, union leader, owner of The Old Miami, and a defining figure in Detroit's Cass Corridor community.

Dan spent the last decade of his life retired in South Haven with his partner of over 40 years, Julie Flynn, and their beloved dogs and cats: Luther, Junior, Ruby, Tab, Tiger and Turtle. He spent his days making art, relaxing by his pond and enjoying nature. Last May, his work was featured in a successful Outsider Art Exhibit at the Grey Rabbit in Grand Rapids.

He was known for his sense of humor and humanity, Dan left behind a lasting legacy in both Detroit, and South Haven.

Services will be held on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 16th from 11 AM - 3 PM at James H. Cole Home for Funerals (2426 W. Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI) with a Celebration of Life to follow at The Old Miami (3930 Cass Ave, Detroit MI).

Laverne Walter Masten

Laverne Walter Masten, 85, of Paw Paw, passed away Friday, May 8, 2026, at Maple Lake Assisted Living, Paw Paw. Vern was born on Aug. 21, 1940, at home in Mattawan, the son of Margie Grant Masten and Marie Elizabeth (Geisel) Masten.

Vern proudly served his country in the Marine Corps. He continued a career with the Marines, totaling 26 years. He carried a strong sense of dedication and resilience throughout his life. Following his military career, Vern went on to work for the United States Post Office. He took great pride in gardening and enjoyed operating his roadside produce stand at his home in Paw Paw, Masten Produce. Vern had an appreciation for the past and enjoyed watching old TV shows, especially Westerns. He also loved a good book and crossword puzzle. He was a longtime active member of the American Legion McGowen - Johnson Post 68 Paw Paw. Vern was dedicated to the legion, always lending a helping hand.

He is survived by his five sisters, Kathleen (John) Thrasher, Linda Hunt, Terry (John) Brannum, Judy Masten and Sharon Masten; one brother, Norman (Janet) Masten; along with many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews and cousins.

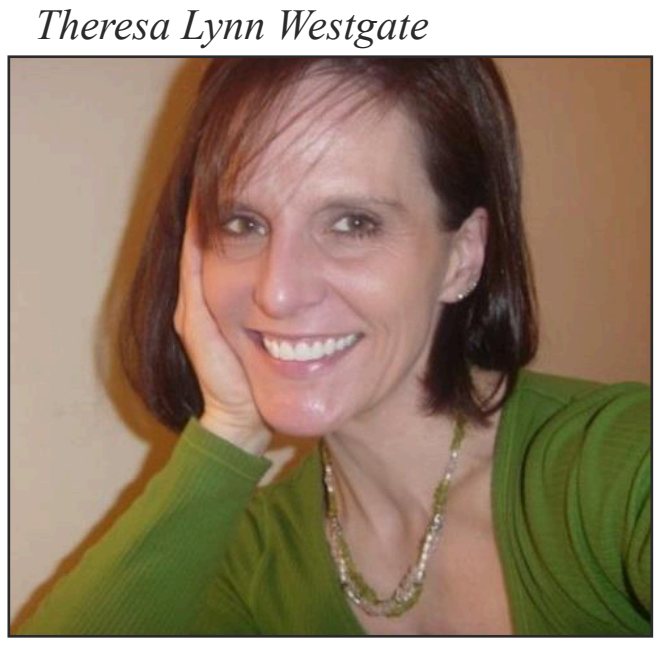
Vern was preceded in death by his parents, sisters, Carol Frank, Ethel Masten, Joan DeCrick and Bonnie Grewett, brothers, Darrell Masten and Delbert Masten.

Family and friends are invited to visit Friday, May 15, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Adams Funeral Home, 502 West Michigan Ave., Paw Paw. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Burial will follow at Almena Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Legion Post 68, PO Box 19, Paw Paw, MI, 49079.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at: www.adamspawpaw.com

Theresa Lynn Westgate



Theresa "Trie" Lynn Westgate, nee Mullins, was born January 6, 1970, and passed away peacefully at home on May 6, 2026, in O'Fallon, Ill.

Although born in Wayne, Michigan, when she was young, Trie's family moved across state to Paw Paw, where she graduated high school. She furthered her education, earning her teaching degree from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. She met the love of her life while living in England, and she frequently joked about being Charlie's "British" wife. Prior to moving to O'Fallon to be closer to family, they were married and lived in Annapolis, Maryland (still a favorite vacation spot and planned retirement location). Trie's biggest pride came from being a devoted mother of six amazing children and a military spouse. She was an active member at the O'Fallon Y and a fitness enthusiast.

Survivors include her husband Charles "Charlie" J. Westgate III; beloved children McKenzie (Abdul) Basil, Mason Maxwell-Westgate, Andrew Maxwell, Abby Maxwell, Miles Maxwell, and Sean Maxwell; two grandchildren LaMiyah and Kai; father Thomas (Patty) Mullins; mother Judy (Michael) Toth; sisters Dawn (Mike) Davies, Peggy (Doug) Noble; and brother Michael (Tonya) Toth.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested to the Fisher House (https://www.fisherhouse.org/about/), which provides comfort homes where military and veteran families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. Trie volunteered with them for several years, and it was always important for her to help others.

The family will host private services. Burial is being planned at Arlington National Cemetery. Wolfersberger Funeral Home, 102 W. Washington St., O'Fallon, Ill., 62269, www.wfh-ofallon.com, is serving the family.

THE COURIER LEADER
PAW PAW FLASHES
SOUTH HAVEN BEACON

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WILCOX NEWSPAPERS, LLC
PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 657-3072 • wilcoxnewspapers.com

Publisher - Mike Wilcox
Graphics- Liz LaValle
Reporters - Paul Garrod
James Windell
IT - Jordan Wilcox

PERIODICAL RATE POSTAGE PAID AT PAW PAW, MI 49079-0129
Postmaster-Send address changes to:
PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010

Foster parents recognized during May

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

May is recognized as Foster Parent Awareness/Appreciation Month. Van Buren County currently has 105 foster kids, (50 females and 55 males) up to age 18, according to latest statistics provided by Jennifer Patrick, Family Bound Executive Director and Region 3 Resource Team Program Director.

Patrick said statewide total as of April 2026 reported 10,011 kids in foster care.

Patrick said Van Buren County currently has 14 foster homes with available beds, with another 36 homes at full capacity. "While any of the 14 foster homes might have available beds, they may have other things going on and can't take in more kids," she explained.

"We try to keep siblings together, however, sometimes that isn't possible due to each child's individual needs, available beds or other factors," said Patrick. There are currently 42 children under the age of five; 25 from ages five to nine; 16 from ages 10 to 13; 19 from ages 14 to 17; and two are 18, according to MDHHS' Monthly Fact Sheet, April 2026.

Patrick said foster homes are currently needed in Decatur, Paw Paw, Lawton and Mattawan, according to DHHS, who reports that most removals occur in those four locations.

"Those are the areas we need more foster homes so we can keep the kids in the same community (schools, friends, etc.)" said Patrick.

Patrick said the longest serving foster home in Van Buren County is 13 years, with the newest home in Bangor marking approximately three months.

For those considering becoming a foster parent, they are asked to call Foster Care Navigatorat ***1-855-MICHKIDS.*** Navigators are experienced foster care parents who can answer questions, help find an agency and provide guidance along the journey to becoming a foster parent.

Those considering becoming a foster parent can participate in pre-service training, known as GROW. The acronym GROW stands for:

Grow culturally responsive relationships.

Recognize children's developmental needs and the impact of trauma.

Obtain information and resources.

Work in partnerships with families to support healthy relationships.

Patrick said foster parenting requires a lot of patience, compassion and skill. Foster parents understand that the children that come to them are hurting and that it takes a long time to reduce that pain and change the resulting behaviors. You must be 18 years old, be of good moral character, be in good health, have an adequate income, and meet other basic standards.

Foster parents are not expected to pay all expenses for foster children. Twice monthly, you'll receive a payment, based on the age and needs of the child. Foster parents will also receive a semi-annual clothing allowance. Children in foster care are eligible for Medicaid, which pays for medical, dental and mental-health care. Many foster families will qualify for reimbursement for the costs of daycare, according to Patrick.

For individuals who would like to help, but are unable to foster, Patrick said there are several things that they can do including delivering meals to foster homes, taking a child for parenting time, taking kids to appointments, and just doing things with kids. Contact a Foster Care Navigator to help you get connected and raise the hopes of Van Buren County kids in foster care.

VAN BUREN COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN
COME JOIN US
Link arms with other local conservative women who share your values.
MONDAY, MAY 18
6:00 PM
VAN BUREN CONFERENCE CENTER
490 South Paw Paw Street
Lawrence, MI
Come learn what we're about, get involved, and make a difference in our community and our country!
★ DINNER AND BEVERAGES PROVIDED ★
For more information, visit:
vbcrepublicanwomen.godaddysites.com

PAW PAW DISTRICT LIBRARY
CHECK IT OUT!
UPCOMING EVENTS 5/18 - 5/23
Mon., May 18
Permits for Friends trunk sale now available
$15 per permit. Permit proceeds benefit the library.
Mon., May 18
10 pm-11 pm
TODDLERS: Storytime
Wed., May 20
6 pm-7 pm
CHILDREN: Trixie's Birthday Paw-ty
Thurs., May 21
10 am-11 am
BABIES & TODDLERS: Mother Goose on the Loose
Thursday, May 21
6:30 pm-7:30 pm
ADULTS: Heartbreak Book Club
Say You'll Be Mine by Naina Kumar
Visit pawpawlib.org or call 269.657.3800 for more information!

ALWAYS FREE TOWING WITH ANY MAJOR OVERHAUL!
$129.95 TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP
Includes: Filter, Fluid, Check Codes & Adjust Bands if needed.
ATRA Honoring All After-Market Warranties!
SNK Transmission & Auto Repair
keeping you on the road.
22203 M-40
GOBLES, MI
(Across from Wahmhoff Farms)
269-628-0186
12-04-17FL

SERVICE DIRECTORY

RYAN SERVATIUS REAL ESTATE
269.252.7926
CallRyan.com
South Haven's most award winning Broker
CENTURY 21 Affiliated
253 Center St Suite 101
South Haven, MI

Rent a Water Softener for $35/mo.
Add an RO for only $5/mo more.
* Call for details
Gordon WATER SYSTEMS
269-382-0068

MICHIGAN CONCEALED PISTOL CLASSES
WATERVLIET ROD & GUN CLUB
Classes held monthly at Watervliet Rod and Gun Club
For information or to register contact:
269-470-9191 or 269-463-8785, or
watervlietrodandgunclub.org.

MOSES DRYWALL
CALL US FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT.
269-651-8085

CALLAHAN TRACTOR WORKS
EST. 2024 – VETERAN OWNED
MARK CALLAHAN
(269) 207-1342
Email: CTWLLC@yahoo.com
Tilling
Brush Hogging
Brush Cutting
Driveway Grading
Grapple work
DIY Help
Veteran owned and operated

ANTHONY'S LAWN CARE
Spring Cleanup
Residential and Commercial
Lawn-mowing
We deliver mulch, dirt and stone.
Free Estimates. Call Anthony.
269-599-9528

L ST★R BUILDER'S
SPECIALIZING IN:
DECKS • POLE-BARNS
We do general construction
#269-503-9680

CL KRUITHOFF BUILDING CO.
NEW ENERGY EFFICIENT HOMES
GARAGES, BARNDOS & POLE BARNS
Chad L. Kruithoff, President
SINCE 1998
CLKruithoff@yahoo.com
Insured
Free Quotes
269 217-3850
WWW.POLE-BARNS.COM

LET ME FILL YOUR POOL
letmefillyourpool.net
FRITZ FARM TRANSPORT LLC
269-427-5039
BANGOR, MI 49013
Clean Water
Call For Rates
Allegan, Bangor, Bloomingdale, Coloma, Covert, Gobles, Hartford, Lawrence, Lawton, Kalamazoo, Mattawan, Oshtemo, Paw Paw, Portage, South Haven, Stevensville, St Joseph, Watervliet and surrounding communities

Upscale Mercantile
UPSCALE MERCANTILE
161 N. Blue Star Hwy., Douglas MI
www.upscalemercantile.com
Open Thursday through Monday
Vintage Furniture
Vintage Barware
Home Goods
Gourmet Foods
Gifts
One-of-a-kind items

Respiratory Problems... Fatigue... Joint Pains... Many Other Health Issues
HAVE A SICK?
GOT MOLD?
AIR QUALITY TESTING
INSPECTIONS & CONSULTING
ISI ENVIRONMENTAL
OFFICE/ FAX: 269-432-9334
Serving Northern IN & Southern MI Since 2001

WARK PAINTING & CONTRACTING
Scott Wark
Owner / Operator
warkpainting.com
swark63@icloud.com
(269) 487-6489
(989) 316-5900

SCHUITMAKER MORAITIS LAW OFFICE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
ESTATE PLANNING
REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS
PROBATE
CORPORATE LAW
MUNICIPAL LAW
(269) 657-3177
www.PawPawLaw.com
181 West Michigan, Suite 1
Paw Paw, MI 49079-0520

$89.00 AC TUNE UP, THRU MAY
RICHARDS MECHANICAL
269.993.5020
rmechhavac.com

FOR MORE INFO OR TO PLACE AN AD Call (269) 657-3072 or 657-5080 BEFORE MONDAY AT 5PM
www.wilcox-newspaper.com

TONY'S
LAWN CARE AND DUMPSTER RENTALS
"Affordability at its best"
Free Estimates
Commercial and Residential
269-539-1021
CALL or TEXT

We buy DIABETIC supplies.
CASH paid.
We do local pickup, cash in hand.
269-357-9465

Sunset Storage
STORAGE LOCKERS
CARS • BOATS • RVS • TRAILERS
www.sunsetstoragemi.com
269-500-1132 • 69107 Red Arrow Hwy. Hartford

U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin visits South Haven

By James Windell

Senator Elissa Slotkin stopped off in South Haven last Tuesday, May 5, 2026, to make a couple of appearances.

The ostensible purpose for coming to this area was to meet with South Haven leaders to talk about some of the City of South Haven's problems. But while she was here, she did a quick fundraiser for the Democratic candidate for the U.S. Representative seat from Michigan's 4th Congressional District now held by Bill Huizenga.

Although an interview was initially arranged with the South Haven Beacon, that was cancelled on May 5 with Slotkin's press secretary announcing that the Senator's schedule had shifted.

But after the afternoon fundraiser for Congressional candidate Sean McCann, Slotkin did have a dinner meeting at Clementine's restaurant in downtown South Haven with City Manager Kate Hosier and Mayor Annie Brown.

After the dinner, Mayor Brown said that she and Hosier talked to the Senator about their priorities and they told her with which particular problems they could use help.

While Hosier did not have a comment after the meeting, Brown said that she thought the meeting went well.

"Few legislators show up in South Haven, look me in the eye, and ask what our taxpayers need," the Mayor said. "So, I was thrilled that U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin made time to meet with City Manager Kate Hosier and me to chat about housing, energy costs and coastal resiliency."

The Senator's press secretary promised a quote about the Senator's reaction to the meeting, but it was not received before the Beacon went to press.

Urgent Care in South Haven one step closer

By James Windell

An urgent care facility seemed one step closer after the South Haven Charter Township Planning Commission voted to approve the site plan submitted by Corewell Health.

The Planning Commission, at their regular meeting on May 6, 2026, reviewed the exterior building plans as well as the floor plans for the proposed medical building at 71989 CR 388.

The planned services, according to a Corewell Health representative who attended the meeting, would include an urgent care suite and a general/family practice suite. Building plans would allow Corewell to add various medical specialties over time. However, there are no plans for overnight beds as the building will be for outpatient and clinic use only.

The current underlying property owner is Peter Jobson of Excel Realty and it is expected that Corwell Health will purchase the property after all approvals are completed. The property is approximately 3.75 acres, and the surrounding area is primarily vacant farmland with additional commercial activity and a hotel proposed nearby. The Planning Commission determined that while 56 parking spaces are required, Corewell proposes 62 parking spaces proposed.

The Planning Commission also learned that in terms of stormwater and retention, that an outlet will meter discharge to the adjacent swale so the site does not discharge more than the pre-development condition – consistent with drain commissioner rules. Driveway access and utility considerations were also reviewed with the relevant agencies and all necessary approvals have been granted.

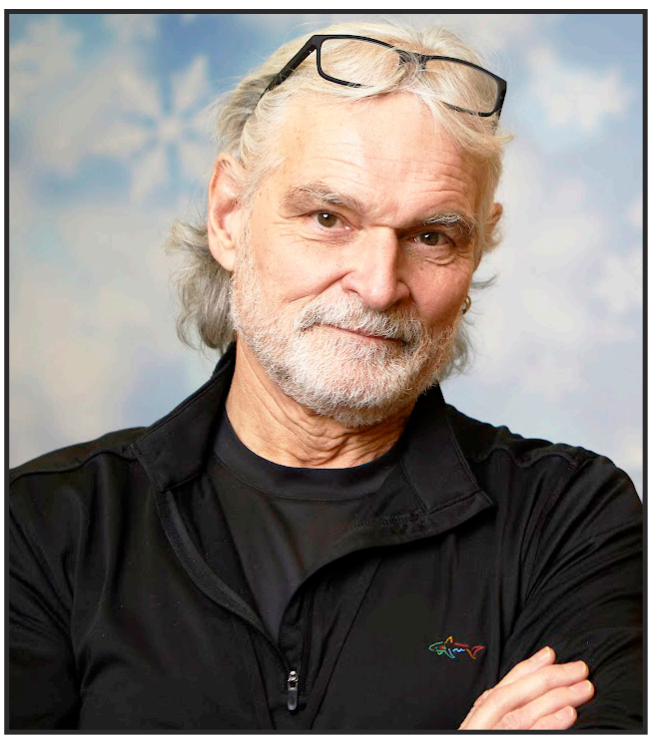
Although Commission members asked about operating hours, the Corewell representative said that hours haven't been determined yet, however, it is expected that the facility will be opened longer hours due to urgent care and the building may be open seven days a week.

The Planning Commission walked through site plan review criteria and found that all items were satisfied, including surface water drainage, driveways and parking, roads and utility service, signs and lighting, and landscaping.

A motion was made and supported to approve the final site plan, and the motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Although there is no exact date for beginning construction on the nearly 15,000 square foot building, it is anticipated that groundbreaking might occur this summer with the urgent care opening in 2027.

Prohibition brewing in West Michigan subject of talk at HASH Annual Open House



By James Windell

What's the history of Prohibition-era brewing in West Michigan?

The one man who knows something about that subject will be on hand at the Historical Association of South Haven's Annual Open House and Member Kick-Off on May 23, 2026 to share his knowledge.

Keith Howard, a digital preservation specialist at the Kalamazoo Public Library and a former instructor of business communication and information technology at Western Michigan University, will present "Prohibition Era Brewing in Southwest Michigan." The lecture will be an exploration of the rich history of pre-prohibition brewing in Kalamazoo and the surrounding area.

Howard, in a recent interview, said that he stumbled on the subject almost by accident.

"In an article I was writing, I wanted to make reference to a brewery that I knew about it and I wanted to make sure I had my facts correct," he said from his office in the Kalamazoo Library. "In the process of digging into this brewery, I was amazed at how little information was out there and what I did find was inaccurate or incomplete. That irked me and I decided I needed to figure this out."

That led to research and learning more about the history of brewing, especially in Kalamazoo. When he published his first article, he was surprised that it was picked up by U.S. News & World Report as well as a British brewing history journal.

In his presentation at HASH, he will explore the rich history of pre-prohibition brewing and share what he has discovered about some of the first brewers in the area nearly 200 years ago. He will also discuss how the "local option" brought an end to the era in 1915.

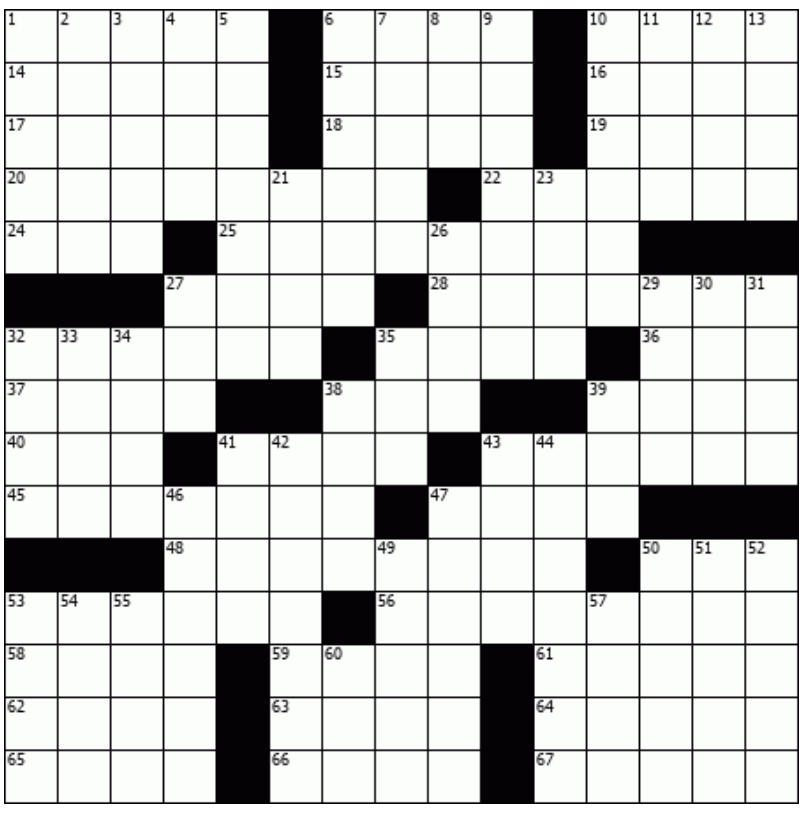
Although he hasn't learned as much about the history of brewers, say, in South Haven or Van Buren County, he's continuing to investigate what other areas of West Michigan were doing in terms of brewing alcoholic beverages in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

"I have found out that Van Buren County was a dry county from at least the 1890s on," he said. "But I'm still trying to determine if there were any resident brewers in Van Buren County, especially in Paw Paw."

The HASH open house begins at 6:00 pm on May 23, 2026, at Forest House, 313 Center Street, South Haven, with themed cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres. The program will start at 7:30.

For more information, visit the HASH website at www.HistoryofSouthHaven.org

CROSSWORD PUZZLES

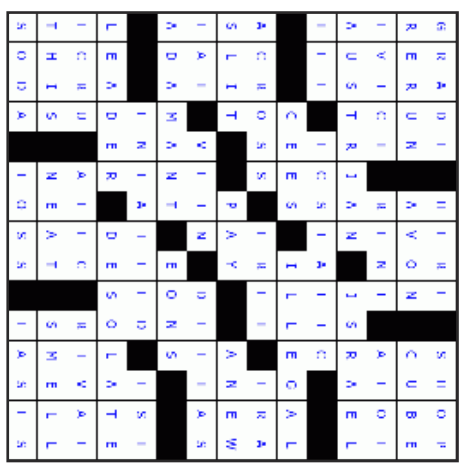


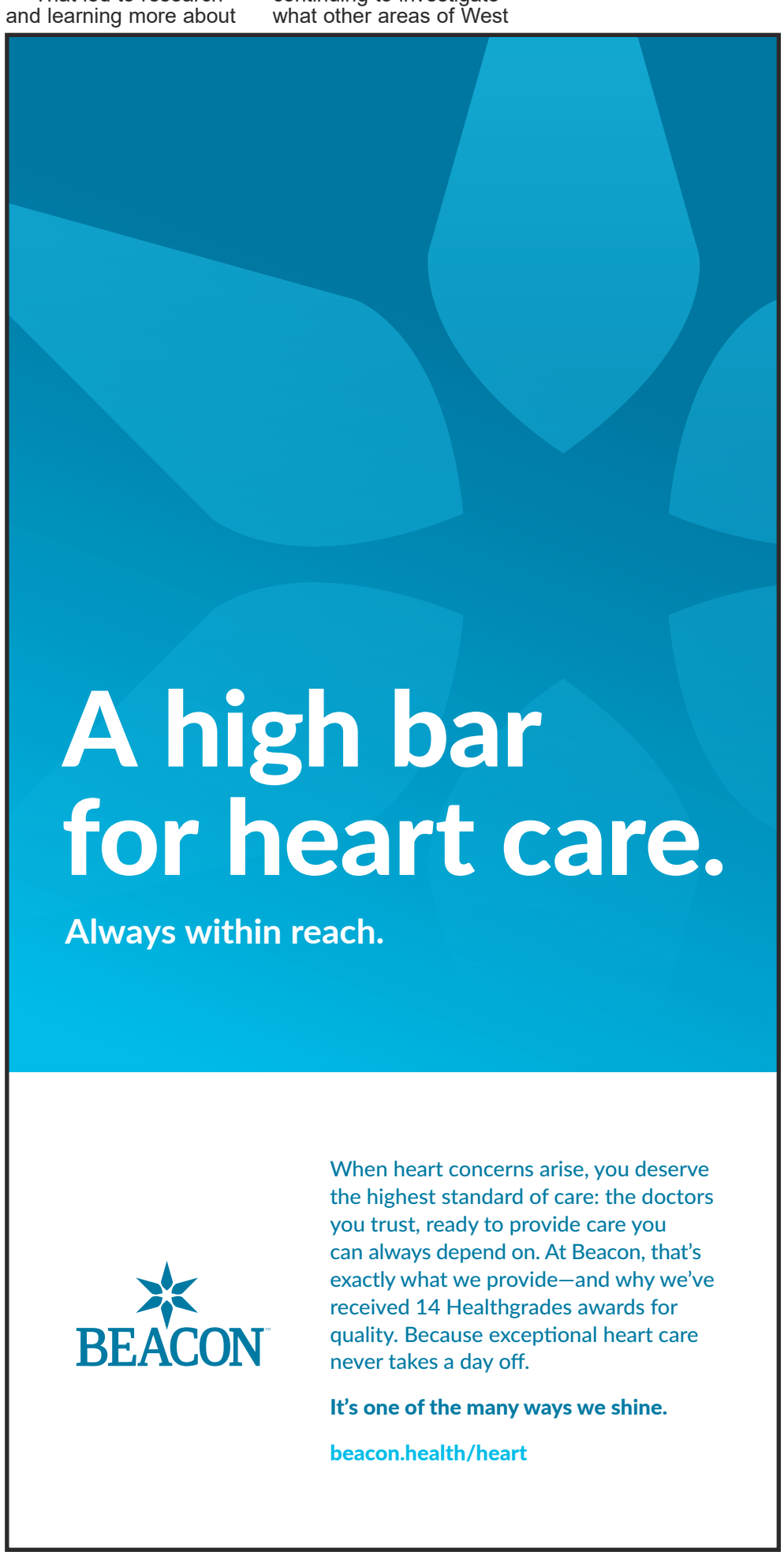
ACROSS

1. School division
6. Present!
10. Boutique
14. TV repeat
15. Stratford-upon-____
16. Ice unit
17. Boot out
18. Monthly expense
19. Burn reliever
20. Vienna native
22. Tel Aviv's country
24. Ess follower
25. Very happy
27. Mediocre grades
28. Unlawful
32. Crossword direction
35. Worry
36. Historic period
37. Narrow opening
38. Wages
39. Over again
40. Nosh
41. Blood vessel
43. River mouths
45. Uncompromising
47. Many years
48. Involved
50. CT time zone
53. Guiding person
56. Deserted
58. Light tan
59. A Baldwin
61. Opponent
62. The thing here
63. Cool!
64. Aroma
65. Fizzy beverage
66. Pitch
67. Soothes

DOWN

1. Excellent
2. Musical show
3. Ascend
4. Channel
5. Main dishes
6. Annoy
7. Occasion
8. L. ____ Hubbard
9. Give a right to
10. Not abundant
11. ____-Hoop
12. Band instrument
13. Banana skin
21. Frosts
23. Fine sand
26. Well-ventilated
27. Camp bed
29. Chap
30. Region
31. Statutes
32. Drifting
33. Clothed
34. Pinup ____ Hayworth
35. Air circulator
38. Flat bread
39. Gore and Roker
41. Wind indicator
42. Competitor
43. Performs
44. Support
46. Snake-haired woman
47. Votes in
49. Notions
50. Roof overhangs
51. Not fresh
52. Narrates
53. Rents
54. Repeat
55. Moistureless
57. Peruvian capital
60. Zodiac lion




A high bar
for heart care.
Always within reach.
BEACON
When heart concerns arise, you deserve the highest standard of care: the doctors you trust, ready to provide care you can always depend on. At Beacon, that's exactly what we provide—and why we've received 14 Healthgrades awards for quality. Because exceptional heart care never takes a day off.
It's one of the many ways we shine.
beacon.health/heart

Section B

BREWSTER'S
FINE FOOD & SPIRITS
1420 M89, OTSEGO • 269-694-1818
DINE IN & TAKE OUT HOURS
Wed.-Thurs. 11am-9pm
Fri.-Sat. 11am-10pm
Sun. 12pm-7pm
Kitchen closes 1/2 hour before the bar.
Potato Wedges only $2.99 per order
EXTRA SIDES
• Cole Slaw • Baked Beans
• Potato Salad • Cottage Cheese
• French Fries • Garlic Mashed Potatoes
$2.75
BONE-IN BROASTED CHICKEN
GRAB & GO
by the piece, box or bucket!
AVAILABLE
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY
11AM TO 6PM
Call ahead for large orders!
By the box/bucket
4 piece $7.75
8 piece $13.99
16 piece $27.75
32 piece $55.00
By the piece
Leg $2.00
Thigh $2.00
Wing $2.00
Breast $3.00

Gobles track teams qualify for MITCA state

Gobles track athletes continue to have a strong season.

Photos courtesy of Kathie J. Brown. Madison Cooley -Lauren Shaffer - Ava DeYoung - Libby Smith have done well in the relay.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES — Both the Men's and Women's track teams have qualified for the Division 4 MITCA team state championships held on May 23rd at Hillsdale College.

The women are ranked 3rd and the men 5th in Division 4 this week to qualify for the championships.

The Lady Tigers recently completed the Duel meet portion of our season undefeated at 8-0 and were crowned the SAC Lakeshore Division Champion.

The men finished in 2nd place with only one loss for a very respectable 7-1 record.

The teams also both had a strong showing at the SAC Conference championships that Gobles hosted on Tuesday, May 5th.

Overall the boys placed 5th and the girls were 4th with the following all conference performances.

BOYS:
1st team All Conference
Nathan Ray - 200m Dash 23.51 and 400m Dash 52.47 (1st place in both events)
2nd team All Conference
Nathan Ray - 100m Dash 11.65 (2nd Place)
Coal Otis - High Jump 5'10" (2nd Place)
Honorable Mention
4x200m relay 1:35.13 - (3rd Place) the team of Steven Juarez, Coal Otis, Nathan Ray, and David Sager

GIRLS:
1st Team All Conference
Libby Smith - 1600m Run 5:14.40, and 3200m Run 11:18.23 (1st in both for the 3rd year in a row), Both of these were State Early Qualifying times.
Madison Cooley - 1st place 800m Run 2:28.21; 4 x 800 relay - 10:00.51 (1st Place, a new Gobles School Record and a State Early Qualifying time) - Libby Smith, Lauren Shaffer, Ava DeYoung, Madison Cooley
4 x 200 relay - 1:51.45 (1st Place) - Olivia Platt, Ava DeYoung, Taylor Cooley, Madison Cooley
2nd Team All Conference
4x400m Relay - 4:20.26 (2nd place) - Ava DeYoung, Lauren Shaffer, Taylor Cooley, Madison Cooley
Honorable Mention
Taylor Cooley - High Jump 5 foot (3rd place)

Lawrence track team has huge day

Carolina Mancera

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWRENCE — The Lawrence Tigers earned several top-eight finishes at Friday's Gobles Invitational.

Senior Carolina Mancera led the girls with a second in the discus and fourth in the shot put. Senior Alexander Gardner matched that success for the boys, taking third in the shot put and fifth in the discus.

Lawrence also placed two relays in the top eight. The Girls 4x100 team of Colleen McCaw, Kaylin Leyva, Carolina Mancera, and Zoey Soppelsa finished fifth.

The Boys 4x800 squad of Mateo Mancera, Isaac Keymoole, Rendyn Alfieri, and Xavier Glover placed seventh, a major breakthrough which included three 8th graders, producing one of Lawrence's fastest 4x800 times in the last five years.

The Tigers added eight personal bests, including improvements from Zoey Soppelsa (100m), Zeke Waite (110H), Kaiden Blackmoore (300H), Xavier Glover (400m and 800m), Isaac Keymoole (1600m), Kacey Reyes (1600m), and Evan Broyles (3200m).

Lawton softball

Lawton's softball team won 15-5 in the second game of a Monday twin bill with Bangor which won the opener 7-0.

Kinsley Smith drove in four runs on two hits for Lawton in the victory.

Allison Murphy earned the win for Lawton.

Bangor falls to Lawton

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWTON — Lawton's baseball team slipped past Bangor 15-11 in Monday action.

"We kept it close, down 9-5 going into the bottom of the seventh," Bangor coach Nick Cox said. "We scored four runs to put it into extras, where we ultimately lost 15-11 in eight innings.

"We were led by Luke Remington, Carson Pullins and Jaret McCoy, all recording multiple hits. We are back in action Wednesday at home, when we have senior night for our six seniors."

Lawton had 16 hits composed to 10 for Bangor. Lawton scored six runs the top of the eight with three has or a 15-9 lead. Warren Page had a key two-run single for Lawton in that inning.

Benn Hall was the starting pitcher for Lawton. Page and Logan Clark appeared in receive.

Hall had four his for Lawton. Carter Chisholm, Braylon Williams and Brayden Russell all had multiple hits.

Lawton split with Allegan on May 7, winning 7-6 and losing 10-0.

In the first game, Brady Quick had three walks for Lawton. Page had two RBIs. Quick, Ben Hall and Brayden Russell had two hits apiece. Page and Williams did the pitching. For Lawton.

"In four games last week," Cox said. "Jaret Mccoy went 9/13, 2 RBIs, and 2 doubles. He made every play in the field going 7/7. Jaret went 10 strong innings this week on the bump. He struck out 18 batters and walked 5 while giving up only 3 earned runs."

South Haven beats Fennville

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven baseball scored nine runs in the fifth inning, which helped them defeat Fennville 12-0 on Tuesday (May 5). South Haven has a 17-7 record.

Isaac Chalupa hit a sacrifice fly, scoring one run, Jonathan Bevevino singled, scoring one run, Grayson Knox drew a walk, scoring one run, an error scored one run, Max Hanny drew a walk, scoring one run, Jadon Schneider singled, scoring two runs, and Chalupa singled, scoring two runs in the huge inning.

Verseput earned the win for South Haven. He gave up zero hits and zero runs over one inning, striking out two and walking none. Peoples took the loss for Fennville.

He went 4.1 innings, surrendering 11 runs (three earned) on seven hits, striking out two and walking five.

South Haven had 10 hits in the game. Bevevino went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead South Haven Varsity Rams in hits.

Chalupa earned the win for South Haven on the mound.

South Haven split with Brandywine on May 7, losing the opener and taking the next game 2-0. On Saturday, South Haven beat Jenison 8-7 and Buchanan 7-2. Against Jenison, Grayson Knox and Jake Bosma had two hits apiece. Chalupa was the winning pitcher against Buchanan and also had two RBIs. Knox and Bosma again had two hits apiece.

Mattawan baseball having success

By John Raffel

MATTAWAN Mattawan's baseball team improved to 18-6 coming into action this week.

On Thursday (May 7) "we hosted Gull Lake, and the Blue Devils came in 10-0 in the conference," coach Brett Vaughn. "We took the first game 6-5 with Colby Grover being our offensive catalyst. He had 2 hits and 4 RBI in game one. Maxx Vanantwerp threw a strong 6.1 innings allowing 5 runs on 5 hits with 5 strikeouts. Liam Walsh came in and got the save.

"In game 2 we played to a 7-inning tie. Colby Grover, Liam Walsh, and Ryan Willis each had two hits to propel the offense. Kaden Jominy threw six innings, allowing three runs on four hits, and striking out 9."

On Saturday Mattawaj traveled to Mason to take on Cadillac and Mason. In the first game Mattawan beat Cadillac 13-2. Coleton Strong and John Pelak had 3 hits. Jack Reiter, Nolan Jominy, and Jaiden Hoeksema each had tw0 hits. Nate Fowler allowed one run on one hit through four innings. He struck out three in the win.

In game 2 we took on a tough Mason team, coming away with a 5-2 victory. Patrick Dougherty and Ethan Saunders had two hits each.

"Liam Walsh threw a complete game throwing only 81 pitches. He allowed only six hits and pitched to contact the entire game," Vaughn said.

Paw Paw splits twin bill

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Paw Paw split with Otsego on May 4, losing 9-3 and winning 4-0 in the second game.

Varsity baseball couldn't overcome defensive miscues and lost 9-3 in the opener. Ryan Holmes and Caden Bowneach had a multi-hit game. Ryan went 2-3 with a double, BB, SB, and 2 runs scored.

Caden was 2-3 with a double, BB, 2 SB, and an RBI. Bryn Carlsen added a double and threw 4 gritty innings. Benny Flanders picked up the other hit. Landen pitched three tough innings.

In Game 2 the Red Wolves jumped on top early and were leading 4-0 in the bottom of the fourth before the storms rolled in and postponed the game. Caden was dominant on the mound and at the plate.

Caden threw all 4 innings, 0 ER, 1 H, and 11 K'S. Caden was also 2-2 with a deep solo homer. Ryan Holmes was 1-2 with an RBI.

Carson had a clutch 2 RBI single and SB. Benny added a single, run scored, and SB.

The Red Wolves are now 11-5-1.

Upcoming games:

May 12th away DH vs Three Rivers

May 14th home DH vs Berrien Springs (Youth Apprrciation Game)

Bloomingdale girls lose pair

By John Raffel
Correspondent

BLOMINGDALE — Bloomingdale's softball team lost 17-2 and 12-1 to Centreville in Monday games.

Hailee Blazys was the starting pitcher in the first game for Bloomingdale. She gave up 17 runs,13 earned and 20 hits,, striking out two and walking none.

Leading hitter Kailynn Bond led Bloomingdale's with two hits in two at bats.

Tayl.or Blazys and Emily Latham each drove in a run for Bloomingdale.

In the second game, Blazys led Blooming dale with two hits.

Blazys pitched 34.2 innings in relief for Bloomingdale, giving up 14 hit sand 19 runs (one earned) while striking out four and walking two. Emily Latham was the starting and losing pitcher.

Blazys had two hits for Bloomingdale.

Bloomingdale lost to Cassopolis 19-6 and 13-1 on May 7.

Blazys was the starter in the first game for Bloomingdale, allowing 19 runs and 18 hits over six innings Emily Latham had three hits and one RBI for Bloomingdale.

Blazys and Madi Branch had two walks apiece.

Blazes took the loss in the second game. She, Latham and Kailynn Bond all had one hit.

The Cardinals are 7-12 overall.

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers. IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnews papers.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

SHHS soccer wins 2, fall to league leader

South Haven's Katherin Barajas dribbles past Fennville opponent in first half.

Sophie Militello shoots a goal in first half against Fennville. South Have led 1-0 at halftime and added two more goals in the second half.

South Haven's Sam Moesch lets loose with a shot in first half against Fennville.

Sophie Militello of South Haven and Candy Gonzalez of Fennville race to gain possession.

The South Haven High School Lady Rams posted a pair of shutout victories this past week to remain undefeated in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, Lakeshore Division, standings. South Haven first defeated Fennville 3-0 and followed with an 8-0 triumph over Watervliet. South Haven is 4-0 in the conference standings, half-a-game behind Black River (5-0). A showdown between conference leaders was scheduled for Monday, May 11. South Haven is 8-6-2 overall.

In a showdown first place in the conference standings, Black River Charter School edged the South Haven Rams 2-1 on Monday. Black River clinched first place in the Lakeshore division standings with a 6-0 record while South Haven slipped to 4-1. Photos by Tom Renner

South Haven Varsity Rams easily dispatched Fennville on Tuesday, 17-1

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven's softball team beat Fennville on Tuesday (May 5) 17-1.

South Haven scored in the firstafter Mia Holtmann singled to left field, and Madi Duda hit a sacrifice fly.

South Haven scored again in the second inning after Addison Dekoning grounded out, Holtmann grounded into a fielder's choice, Duda singled and Reagan Hahn lined out, each scoring one run.

South Haven had six runs in the third. Julia Wiley singled, scoring one run, Hadley Spencer grounded out, scoring one run, Erin Bos singled, scoring two runs, Duda singled, scoring one run, and Hahn drew an RBI walk.

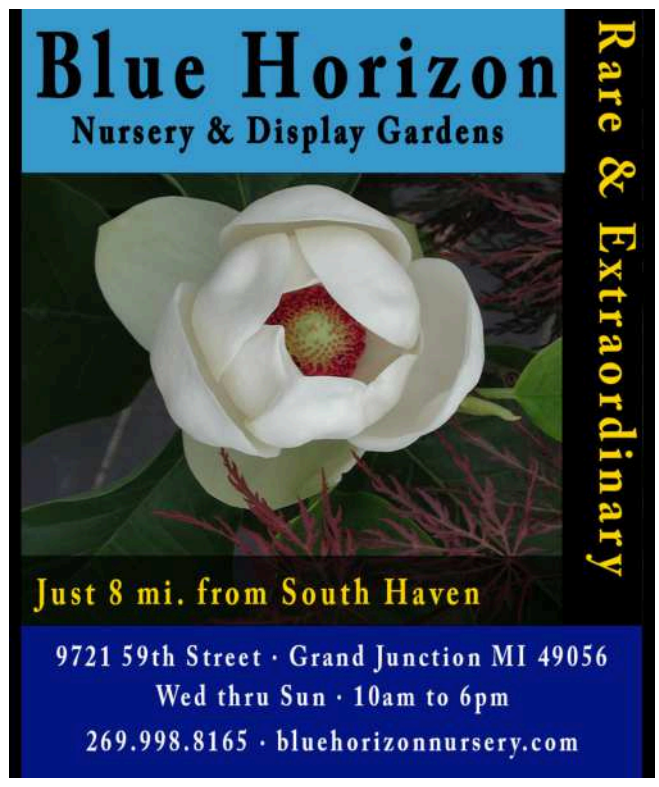
South Haven got five runs on five hits in the top of the fourth inning. Wiley singled, scoring one run, Bos singled andHoltmann singled in runs, Duda hit a sacrifice fly, and Hahn doubled, scoring one run.

Dekoning was the winning pitcher. She allows one hit and zero runs over three innings, striking out five and walking none.

South Haven had 11 hits. Duda had four RBIs and went 2-for-2 on the day. Bos, Holtmann, Duda, and Wiley each collected two hits for South Haven which ha seven walks for the game. Hahn and Kiersten Chalupa led the team with two walks each. Dekoning stole two bases.

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers.
IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspapers.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.
I SAW IT IN THE FLASHES

Imperial Furniture
DOWAGIAC
Furnishings for Your Home and Cottage!
LIVING ROOM • BEDROOM • DINING ROOM • MATTRESSES
UNIQUE ACCESSORIES • GIFTS & HOME DECOR
MONDAY-FRIDAY 9-5, SATURDAY 9-3
57530 M-51 SOUTH, DOWAGIAC MI (800) 884-5020
WWW.IMPERIALFURNITUREDOWAGIAC.COM


Blue Horizon
Nursery & Display Gardens
Rare & Extraordinary
Just 8 mi. from South Haven
9721 59th Street · Grand Junction MI 49056
Wed thru Sun · 10am to 6pm
269.998.8165 · bluehorizonnursery.com

ROYAL WEED
May Flowers
We Deliver Win 15 miles
Introducing Hey Captain! Edible Products
Mother's Day Bouquet of Doobies
$0.01 Preroll with any purchase
All Infused Prerolls & Preroll Packs Buy 2, Get 1 For a Penny
While supplies last.
Check out our website for additional pop up specials at royalweedmi.com
(269)415-0675. 42800 W Red Arrow Hwy Paw Paw, MI 49079

Michigan's #1 Fence Company
Fence Consultants
Of West Michigan
Residential & Commercial Fencing
Railing • Gates and Access Control
Temporary Rental Fences • Wire Mesh Partitions
Holland (616) 392-3496
Kalamazoo (269) 359-1296

Annie and Rod Capps to entertain at Spring Concert Series

By James Windell

Annie and Rod Capps are a long running Michigan-based Americana/folk duo known for witty songwriting, rich vocal harmonies, and genre blending musicianship. The duo will be bringing their style that reviewers consistently describe as warm, rootsy, and emotionally resonant to the Spring Concert Series at the First Congregational Church, South Haven, on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

Based in Ann Arbor, Annie & Rod's sound meets at the intersection of Americana & Folk – all with rock, jazz, and bluegrass influences. They sing songs about broken things and poignant little ponderings, delivered with a rootsy vibe, a touch of twang and a soulful groove.

Their musical journey began in 1982, and over the years since then, they done it all; from hard rock to musical theater. The 80's and 90's found them dividing their time between original projects and cover bands. Their cover band, Foolish Mortals, performed nearly every weekend in bars and pubs around the Detroit area playing songs from The Pretenders and Sheryl Crow to Led Zepplin & Aerosmith. In the later 90's, Annie picked up the guitar again and started writing.

Their transition to "folk" was gradual but eventually they shifted to acoustic instruments, away from the bars and into the coffee shops. It was through the open mic scene they found a new community and discovered a world of listening rooms. All of this experience culminated into a symbiotic sound that reflects their deep and intuitive understanding of each other. From their home near Ann Arbor, Annie & Rod bring their music to folk festivals and listening rooms around the Midwest and tour from California to Maine.

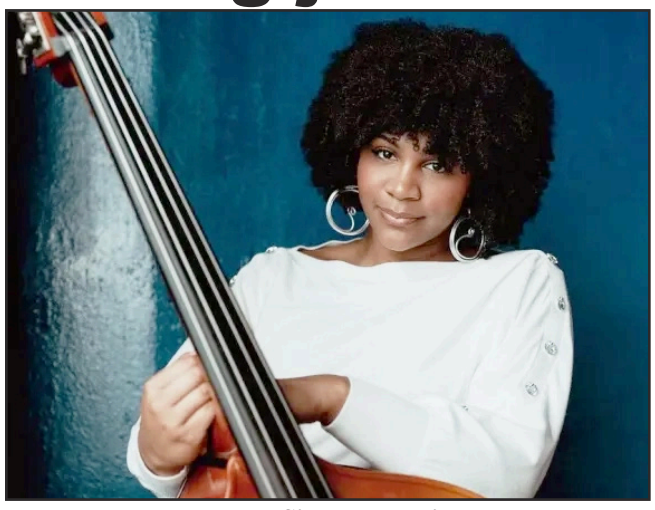
"It is our fervent desire to always give our whole heart and soul along with 110% of our energy to anyone who chooses to listen to our songs," says Annie. "We sincerely want everyone who has made the choice to attend one of our shows to leave feeling satisfied, maybe with a newly provoked thought or lingering chuckle, and always truly glad they came."

Annie is a singer, songwriter, guitarist, producer, and community organizer who has released multiple solo and duo albums, earned four Folk-DJ chart topping records, and is a two time Kerrville New Folk Finalist. Rod is a guitarist, violinist, songwriter, and vocalist whose playing anchors the duo's blend of folk and Americana.

In their concert at the First Congregational Church, Annie & Rod promise to present a concert of joyful songwriting and storytelling, mixed in with covers of Woody Guthrie, Joni Mitchell, John Prine and others.

Annie & Rod will perform on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 3:00 pm at the First Congregational UCC, 651 Phoenix Street, South Haven. Tickets are $20 at the door with free admission for children 12 and under. For more information, call Diane & Lisa at (269) 637-3804 (opt. 5).

Rising jazz musicians to perform at the Scott Club



Laura Simone-Martin

Sequoia Snyder

By James Windell

You may not have heard of Sequoia Snyder or Laura Simone-Martin, but they are two young jazz musicians who deserve greater recognition.

On Sunday, May 17, 2026, both Snyder and Simone-Martin will play together in a concert at the Scott Club in South Haven.

Snyder, who goes by the nickname Redwood, is a pianist who has been gaining credentials as a jazz musician to be taken seriously over the past few years. She has performed with such notables as Kenny Barron, Cory Henry, Herbie Hancock, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Terence Blanchard, Terell Stafford, Teri Lyne Carrington, Patrice Rushen, Christian McBride, and Jason Moran.

In addition, she has headlined venues such Detroit's Dirty Dog Jazz Café, the Blue Llama Jazz Club in Ann Arbor, the Kennedy Center's Club at Studio K, appearances with the New York City Ballet, and the Detroit Jazz Festival.

In a recent interview, Snyder said that despite spending seven years in Michigan as an undergraduate and graduate student at Michigan State University, she has never visited South Haven. She said that when she comes to the Scott Club she will not come alone.

"I'm going to be accompanied by a bassist, Laura Simone-Martin, who is currently studying at Michigan State University," she said. "Laura is an amazing bassist and I'm excited to perform with her as a duo because I often play as a solo or with a band."

She said that she plans to showcase some of her original music along with some standards and some of her favorite songs from pianists she looks up to.

And who are some of the pianists she admires?

Taking a deep breath before responding, she started her list. "One is Geri Allen, who is a Detroit native," she said. "Then, there is Ahmad Jamal, also one of my favorites. Herbie Hancock. Cedar Walton. I could go on, but those are my personal favorites."

While winning acclaim as a jazz pianist, Snyder did not start out playing the piano.

"I grew up singing, actually," she said. "Then, I went to the Duke Ellington School of the Arts as a vocal major. But I started on the piano in my freshman year. I fell in love with the piano. So much so that I ended up changing my major to piano and started playing jazz and classical music."

Although born in Washington, D.C., she spent part of her childhood in Fort Myers, Florida. She was exposed to many different kinds of music by her father.

"Maybe not a lot of jazz, but I definitely grew up involved in church music and gospel music," she said. "My dad's a big music fanatic, so he would always play all kinds of music, like R&B, hip-hop, funk, soul, and pop. When I was young, I was really into Michael Jackson and Stevie Wonder. I always loved music as a child, but I never played until I got to high school and learned the piano."

Redwood completed her graduate studies at Michigan State University, earning a degree in Jazz Studies. At MSU she was mentored by such notable jazz figures as Rodney Whitaker, a University Distinguished Professor of Jazz Bass and the Director of Jazz Studies at MSU, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Jason Moran, and Diego Rivera. Along the way, she has won awards including the Most Inspiring Performance Art Award at MSU, the Outstanding Piano Award at the 2020 Jack Rudin Jazz Championship at Lincoln Center, and winning an Instagram performance competition to tour with The Internet, an alternative R&B, soul, and funk band from Los Angeles. Her most recent album is "Red 2 Go."

Sequoia Snyder will perform with Laura Simone-Martin at 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 17, 2026 at the Scott Club, 652 Phoenix, South Haven. All concerts at the Scott Club are free and open to the public, but RSVPs are requested. RSVP by sending an email to info@scottclub.org.

Park Meadows Apartments
One, two, and three bedroom apartments and town homes
• Central Air • Dishwasher • Microwaves •
• Personal Washers and Dryers •
• Nine acres of beautiful natural surroundings •
Medallion Management
269-639-7275
11225 Park Meadows Dr., Ste. D.,
South Haven, MI 49090
www.medallionmgmt.com

READ THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORT TODAY!
Allegan County Community Foundation
60 Years of Stewardship.
A Future Built Together.
Honoring the past.
Strengthening the present.
Preparing for the next 60 years.
2025 ANNUAL REPORT
YOUR IMPACT, NOW AND FOR EVER

zeinstra HORTICULTURE
independent garden center | plantscaping
annual | tree | shrub | tropical | perennial | vegetable
custom designs by in house designers
PLANTING HAPPY | HAPPY PLANTS
check out
our individual
CUTS
ZEINSTRA FARMS
FARM FRESH BEEF
998 122nd ave shelbyville 49344
mon - thurs 9am to 7pm | fri + sat 9am to 5pm | sun 12pm to 4pm

=• PUBLIC NOTICE •=

Almena Township
SYNOPSIS
March 18, 2026
Almena Township Board meeting was held March 18, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.
Attendance: Tim Kloosterman, Mark Roman, Scott Rueff, Kelly Redmond, Sandra Rickli, Joe Leduc. Absent: John Wagner
- Motion passed to approve amended agenda
- Motion passed to approve amended meeting minutes of February 18, 2026
- Motion passed to approve budget minutes of January 7, 2026
- Motion passed to approve budget minutes of February 9, 2026
- Motion passed to approve budget minutes of March 9, 2026
- Disbursements approved in the amount of $48,926.31
- County Commissioner report
- Sheriff's Dept. report
- Paw Paw and Mattawan Fire Department report
- VBEMS report
- Public comment offered
- Reports by officers presented
- Motion to approve Resolution 2026-02 approving distribution of the 2026 Almena Township Master Plan
- Motion to approve the 2026 Almena Township Board meeting schedule
- Public comment offered
- Meeting adjourned 7:35pm

Sandra Rickli, Clerk, Almena Township

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
Case No. 2026 1049 DE
Judge Hon. Susan Metzger P62867
Estate of JANET ADELE LOWMAN, decedent
Date of birth: 12/15/1960
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Janet A. Lowman, died 2/17/2026.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Brian R. Champion, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 E. Paw Paw St., SUITE #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Date: 4/14/2026
Attorney:
Personal Representative:
Brian R. Champion
13043 31st st
Gobles MI 49079
269-547-3733

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Barbara Lynn Rokos; Atty: Team H; 1st Pub: 5/14/2026; Atty File #: 521906F02; Insurer: (unknown)
Important mainly because it was sent directly to you
Click to teach Gmail this conversation is not important
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Barbara Lynn Rokos, a single woman
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Village Capital & Investment, LLC
Date of Mortgage: October 26, 2020
Date of Mortgage Recording: October 30, 2020
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $50,976.11
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 3 South, Range 16 West, Hartford Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, described as beginning at the East 1/4 post of said Section 34, thence S 00 degrees 05 minutes 25 seconds W, along the East line of said Section, 1014.42 feet to the point of beginning of the land herein described, thence continuing S 00 degrees 05 minutes 25 seconds W, along the said East line, 300 feet to the South line of the Northeast 1/4 of said Southeast 1/4, thence N 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds W, along said South line, 300 feet, thence North 00 degrees 05 minutes 25 seconds E, parallel with the East line of said Section, 300 feet, thence S 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds E, parallel with the South line of the northeast 1/4 of said Southeast 1/4 300 feet to the place of beginning.
Common street address (if any): 70858 62nd St, Hartford, MI 49057-8659
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 14, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1593393
(05-14)(06-04)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Lisa Hoag; Atty: Team H; 1st Pub: 5/7/2026; Atty File #: 511869F05; Insurer: (unknown)
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on June 11, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lisa Hoag, a single woman
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC
Date of Mortgage: March 29, 2019
Date of Mortgage Recording: April 4, 2019
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $95,388.15
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Almena, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: THE SOUTH 160 FEET OF THE WEST 680.6 FEET OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 7, TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 13 WEST, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT SURVEY THEREOF.
Common street address (if any): 30777 M 40, Paw Paw, MI 49079-8520
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 7, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1592703
(05-07)(05-28)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Steven Koenig; Atty: Team X; 1st Pub: 5/7/2026; Atty File #: 529469F01; Insurer: (unknown)
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Steven P. Koenig, aka Steven Koenig, a single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Credit Risk Transfer Trust, Series 2021-3
Date of Mortgage: June 1, 2004
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 9, 2004
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $13,604.33
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Porter, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point found by starting at the Northwest corner of Section 28, Town 4 South, Range 13 West, thence Easterly on the Section line 99 rods, thence South parallel with the West line of said Section 2814 feet, thence South 33 degrees 48 minutes West 356 feet to the point of beginning of this description, thence continuing South 33 degrees 48 minutes West 60 feet, thence South 52 degrees 0 minutes East to Cedar Lake, thence Northeasterly along said Lake to a point which is South 51 degrees 52 minutes East from said point of beginning, thence North 51 degrees 52 minutes West to said point of beginning. Also, a non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress in common with others beginning at a point found by commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 28, Town 4 South, Range 13 West; thence Easter on the North line of said Section, 99 rods; thence South parallel with the West line of said Section, 2814 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence South 33 degrees 48 minutes West 536 feet; thence North 52 degrees 34 minutes West 33.07 feet; thence North 33 degrees 48 minutes East 464.57 feet; thence North parallel with the West line of said Section to the centerline of Shaw Road; thence Easterly along said centerline to a point 99 rods Easterly on the West line of said Section 28; thence South to said point of beginning.
Common street address (if any): 29383 Shaw Rd, Lawton, MI 49065-9449
The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 7, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1592416
(05-07)(05-28)

Correction to Pub -> County: Van Buren; Mtgr: LARRY J SMITH; Atty: ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE - RAS CRANE & PARTNERS (CC ON FILE); 1st Pub: 5/7/2026; Atty File #: 26-387556; Insurer: (unknown)
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC, MAY BE DEEMED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, GA 30004 ph:470-321-7112 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in VAN BUREN County, starting promptly at 1:00 P.M on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): LARRY J SMITH AND JACQUELINE SMITH. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by LARRY J. SMITH AND JACQUELINE SMITH to FIRST FRANKLIN A DIVISION OF NAT. CITY BANK OF IN, original Mortgagee, for a mortgage dated March 09, 2005, and recorded on March 24, 2005, in Liber 1434 Page 142 in the Van Buren County Register of Deeds. Said mortgage was assigned by said Mortgagee to WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-FF6, as documented by an assignment dated March 17, 2026, and recorded on March 30, 2026, in Liber 1790 Page 481 in the VAN BUREN County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $58,549.01. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within VAN BUREN County, Michigan on June 4, 2026 at 1:00 P.M Said premises are located in the city of BLOOMINGDALE in VAN BUREN County, Michigan and are described as: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PREMISES SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMINGDALE, VAN BUREN COUNTY, AND THE STATE OF MICHIGAN: BEGINNING AT THE WEST QUARTER POST OF SECTION 7, T1S, R14W, THENCE SOUTH 89°43'57" EAST ON THE EAST AND WEST QUARTER LINE, 300.00 FEET, THENCE SOUTH PARALLEL WITH THE WEST SECTION LINE, 132.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89°43'57" WEST 300.00 FEET TO THE WEST SECTION LINE; THENCE NORTH ON SAME 132.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Property Address: 5967 46TH ST., BLOOMINGDALE, MI 49026 Tax ID No. 80-05-007-010-20 The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the Mortgage sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-FF6, Mortgagee/Assignee May 7, 2026 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Mortgagee/Assignee 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: 470-321-7112 Facsimile: 404-393-1425 Service Email: MIFCLTeam@raslg.com
(05-07)(05-28)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Lonnie Trulove Jr; Atty: Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. - Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C.; 1st Pub: 4/30/2026; Atty File #: 23MI00162-3; Insurer: (unknown)
FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, May 28, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Lonnie Trulove Jr, a married man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Mortgagee, as Nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, its successors, and assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 22, 2015, and recorded on January 27, 2015, in Liber 1613, Page 810, Van Buren County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated July 31, 2025 and recorded July 31, 2025 in Liber 1781, Page 796, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Six and 59/100 ($74,856.59) including interest at the rate of 4.50000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan, and are described as: That part of the Southeast quarter of Section 28, Town 3 South, Range 16 West, described as follows: Beginning on the East and West quarter line of said Section 28 at a point 1044.56 feet West of the East quarter post of said Section 28, thence West on said quarter line, 273.00 feet to the West line of the East half of the Southeast quarter, thence South 00 degrees 42 minutes 45 seconds East on said West line, 340.00 feet, thence East 273.00 feet, thence North 00 degrees 42 minutes 45 seconds West, 340.00 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as: 64469 66TH AVE, HARTFORD, MI 49057 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: April 30, 2026 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 23MI00162-3
(04-30)(05-21)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Patrick Gillette; Atty: ANDREW BARNES - ANDREW BARNES; 1st Pub: 4/23/2026; Atty File #: (N/A); Insurer: (unknown)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 p.m., on May 21, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. Default has occurred in the conditions of a Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by PATRICK GILLETTE, a single man, as Mortgagor(s), to Horizon Bank. The Mortgage is dated June 2, 2010 and was recorded June 11, 2010 at Liber 1536, Page 318 of Van Buren County Records. The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid at the date of this Notice is FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT AND 45/100 ($53,158.45) DOLLARS, including interest on the applicable indebtedness at a variable rate which is currently 5.00% per annum. This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note and which are permitted under Michigan law after the date of this Notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of the default. At the date and time as referenced previously in this Notice, the Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of them, at public auction, to the highest bidder, for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on or prior to the date of said sale. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage, as located in the Township of Decatur, County of Van Buren, and State of Michigan, are more particularly described as follows: Commencing on the West line of Section 4, Town 4 South, Range 14 West, at a point where the centerline of the drainage ditch intersects said West Section line; thence South along said West Section line 200 feet; thence East at right angles to said West Section line 400 feet; thence North parallel with said West Section line to the center of said drainage ditch; thence Southwesterly along the centerline of said drainage ditch to the place of beginning; Address: 73131 42nd St., Decatur, MI 49045; Tax Parcel Nos.: 80-08-004-006-10 & 80-08-004-006-20; together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, mobile/manufactured home or homes, improvements, and fixtures; all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the premises; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land division or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or to rescind this sale at any time. In that event, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The length of the redemption period will be one (6) six months from date of sale, unless the redemption period is shortened pursuant to MCL 600.3241a or MCL 600.3238, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale or as otherwise provided by statute. DATED: April 23, 2026 ANDREW W. BARNES (P70571) BUTZEL LONG P.C. ATTORNEYS FOR HORIZON BANK 317 Center Street South Haven, MI 49090 269-287-2010
(04-23)(05-14)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Chad Pickett; Atty: Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C. - Schneiderman & Sherman, PC; 1st Pub: 4/23/2026; Atty File #: 26-001137-1; Insurer: FNMA
SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - VAN BUREN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on May 28, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Chad Pickett and Elizabeth Pickett, a husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: November 1, 2024 Recorded on November 13, 2024, Liber 1772, on Page 109, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Huntington National Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Four Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Nine and 03/100 Dollars ($204,449.03) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Van Buren County, and described as: The East 28 rods of the West 53 rods of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, Town 1 South, Range 14 West, according to the Government Survey thereof Commonly known as 38724 24th Ave, Gobles, MI 49055 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The Huntington National Bank Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1591287
(04-23)(05-14)

County: Van Buren; Mtgr: Megan McLeod; Atty: Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C. - Schneiderman & Sherman, PC; 1st Pub: 4/23/2026; Atty File #: 26-000887-1; Insurer: (unknown)
SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - VAN BUREN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on May 21, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Megan McLeod and Sean McDaniel, all as tenants in common Original Mortgagee: Neighborhood Loans, Inc. Date of mortgage: May 30, 2023 Recorded on July 3, 2023, Liber 1754, on Page 454, and re-recorded via Loan Modification recorded on May 30, 2025 in Liber 1779, on Page 490 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifteen and 91/100 Dollars ($223,615.91) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Van Buren County, and described as: Commencing in the center of M-43 highway at a point South 45 degrees 21.5 minutes East 159 feet from the center of Section 24, Town 1 South, Range 17 West; thence South 45 degrees 18.5 minutes West 547.97 feet South parallel with the North and South 1/4 line 117.94 feet; thence North 45 degrees 18.5 minutes East 631.89 feet to center of M-43 highway; thence North 45 degrees 21.5 minutes West along center line 83.85 feet to point of beginning. Commonly known as 70907 M 43, South Haven, MI 49090 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1591286
(04-23)(05-14)

Dogwood Crappie

Just a slight feeling of a bump followed by another bump. With a quick snap of the wrist, the fish was hooked. Crappies might be my favorite fish. And while you can say any time is a good time to chase crappies, when the dogwoods are in full bloom, you can bet that the crappies are in the shallows.

There are days when a crappie can be as picky as a two-year-old. But for the most part, crappie can be caught with a variety of techniques. Some anglers like soaking a minnow under a bobber.

Others enjoy casting, which is my favorite method. Some like drifting, and others enjoy longlining or trolling with the lure 60 feet behind the boat. A few, and I mean just a handful of anglers in Michigan, enjoy spider trolling. If I weren't casting, spider trolling would be my favorite.

We will keep things simple in May. Success is a near-sure thing when casting a jig with a plastic tail or a bobber and a minnow. Location, much like in real estate, is the key to success.

Location will vary from lake to lake based on water clarity, weeds, or a lack of weeds and wood of some type. Hands down, if you have cabbage weeds in your lake, the crappies will be there.

Other weeds will hold fish, but the broad-leaf cabbage weeds will hold the largest concentration. Pencil reed or rice beds that stick out of the water are ignored by many anglers. That's bad for you and good for me. In our area, I can think of a half-dozen lakes with either reeds or rice protruding above the surface. Crappie spawn tightly to this challenging cover.

On some of our lakes, weeds are hard to find. Most often, these lakes are somewhat featureless and have dark-colored water. In these types of lakes, look for wood.

Wood can appear as a dock, flooded vertical trees, stumps, a fallen tree, or logs strewn across the bottom. Two of my favorite crappie lakes have two or three of these types of cover.

Once again, in sticking with the K.I.S.S. format, casting works great around any type of weed beds, including the rice and reed stick-ups. Hands down, my favorite lure is the Charlie Brewer Crappie Grub. Ninety percent of the time, a chartreuse or a yellow will be the color.

The best jighead on the market is the Slider Crappie Jigs. With this head, you can rig your plastic paddle tail weedless. When working with the rice or the reeds, I rig weedless. Fishing around the cabbage weeds, I normally rig it with the hook exposed. When working with just about any wood, we will rig it weedless.

What makes this rig special, you might ask? First off, watch how it moves in the water. It's about as close to a real minnow as you can get. Second, with this jighead, you can slide over logs, pop it off of a cabbage weed, flutter the jig down with pauses, or reel it in on a steady pace.

When the water is darn cold or when facing a severe cold front, a bobber and a jig work best. I do my best to resist using minnows, but on two recent days that small blade is all it takes to capture a bite. Remember that turkey season is still underway, and Bob's Gun and Tackle Shop has you covered.

JACK PAYNE

Payne is a member of OWAA (outdoor writers association of America). He is an avid outdoorsperson who enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking and cooking. "While I may have some knowledge, I am very fortunate that I do know many true experts that share their knowledge with me," said Payne. "Together, hopefully we all can learn and experience more fun in the great outdoors."

FOUNE
WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1970
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - IRRIGATION
WELL DRILLING & REPAIR
4" - 8" Wells
Specializing in 5" PVC Wells
Member of Michigan and National Ground Water Association
GROUND WATER PROFESSIONALS
628-2700
33215 M-43 • Paw Paw
STATE LICENSE #80-2159
05-04-15FL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR 1022 E MICHIGAN AVENUE

The Village of Paw Paw Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 7 p.m. at its regular meeting location at Paw Paw Township Hall, located at 114 N Gremps Street, Paw Paw, MI 49079.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment on a development proposal for two parcels that share this address. The proposal includes a change in use, as well as new construction. Plans are available for review from the Village of Paw Paw community development department.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the proposed project during the above listed public hearing or in advance of the hearing in writing. To submit written comments in advance of the meeting, contact the Village Clerk at k.tacy@pawpaw.net or (269) 657-3148 no later than 10:00AM on June 3, 2026. Alternatively, comments may be submitted in writing to the Village Clerk at 111 E. Michigan Avenue, P.O. Box 179, Paw Paw, MI 49079.

If you are disabled and require reasonable accommodation for this meeting, contact the Village Clerk at least two business days before the meeting in writing at 111 E. Michigan Avenue, P.O. Box 179, Paw Paw, MI 49079 or by telephone at (269) 657-3148.

Bryan Myrkle
Village Manager
The Village of Paw Paw

CLASSIFIEDS

• HELP WANTED •

LIVE-IN KENNEL HELP WANTED and lawn work, free rent, call for information, physically fit male, 269-400-0516

• WANTED •

WE BUY OLD BASEBALL CARDS, OTHER SPORTS MEMORABILIA AND OLD VINTAGE COINS. CAN BE REACHED AT 517-416-1629. WE PAY CASH.

CLARK'S AUTO PARTS, INC. is buying cars, trucks & all metals for recycling. Lawrence, 674-4905 or 1-800-707-8650.

STANDING TIMBER. Top Michigan lumber manufacturer seeking landowners with 25 or more mature hardwood trees to sell. Qualityhardwoodsinc.com • 517-566-8061.

• SERVICES •

TIM'S STUMP GRINDING SERVICE- I believe in respectable service. 269-299-5052, 269-624-6884.

HAULING, CLEANING RECYCLING. Moving service. Right Quick Hauling. Dan Wydick, Dustin Wydick, Daniel Wydick, 423-8545. Serving since 1994.

FIELD PLUMBING & HEATING, INC. Services all brands of heating & cooling equipment in your home or business. 24/7 service for over 50 years, 269-674-3839.

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks, scrap metal and farm machinery. Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, 1525 King Highway, Kalamazoo. 269-381-1315.

CALL A PRO HANDYMAN SERVING LAWRENCE AND SURROUNDING AREAS 269-903-6397.

PERRY'S PERFECT PITCH PIANO TUNING Homes-Churches-Schools, Call 269-999-4440.

• AUCTION •

ALL SECURE SELF STORAGE will hold sale of abandoned property at a public sale pursuant in 540.521-570.527: Public Auction: 5/19/2026 at or after 9:30a.m. EST: 37404 W Red Arrow Highway Paw Paw: Stacy Adams, 311.

GARAGE SALE

ANNUAL HUGE GARAGE SALE: 31419 M-40 (just North of M-43) May 22 - 24. Estate items, antique and other furniture, dishes and lots of vintage and other household goods, Name-brand women's clothes and accessories. Much more. 8:30 am

• FOR SALE •

BOAT FOR SALE- 1988 Bass Trakker, 45 hp Mercury, $2900 or OBO, 269-360-1656.

• FREE •

FREE ROOFING TAR 5 gallon buckets or 55 gallon drum, 269- 599-4561

MEDICARE GURU
Call
Janet Bontrager
Insurance Advisor
(269) 998-6977

The Van Buren Intermediate School District is now accepting bids for 8.5" x 11" white copy paper as specified on the "Copy Paper 2026 Bid" proposal. Bid packets are available for download at www.vbisd.org under District Services – Business Office. Bids are due May 26, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the Van Buren Intermediate School District Business Office, 490 S. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after that time will not be accepted and returned unopened. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid unless it includes both sworn and notarized familial affidavit and Iran linked business affidavit. The Van Buren Intermediate School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities which it deems to be in the best interest of Van Buren Intermediate School District, and the right to award the contract to other than lowest bidder.

CITY OF GOBLES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Gobles City Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed city budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 at the Gobles City Hall, 105 E. Main St., Gobles, MI on May 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. local time. The property tax millage rate to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at Gobles City Hall.

Services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of the printed materials being considered at the meeting will be available to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon five (5) days notice to the Gobles City Hall. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Gobles City Clerk at 105 E. Main St., Gobles, MI (269) 628-2246.

Paula Sipes
Gobles City Clerk
269.628.2246

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The **Village Council** of the **Village of Lawton** will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase **of 0.4436** mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2026-

The hearing will be held on **Tuesday, May 26** at **7:00PM** at **Village hall, 125 S. Main St. Lawton, MI 49065.**

The date and location of the meeting to take action on the proposed additional millage will be announced at this public meeting.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes **2.71%** over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will increase by **11.55%** over the preceding year's operating revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:

Village of Lawton
125 S. Main St
Lawton, MI 49065
269.624.6407

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers.
IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspapers.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.
FLASHES
FIND US ON

800 students attend Ag Awareness

Ag Awareness Days were held Tuesday and Wednesday, May 5 and 6 at the Van Buren Youth fairgrounds, Hartford. Marking the 13th year, the event saw 800 students attend from Van Buren County school districts. The program is a partnership with MSU Extension and Van Buren Tech Ag and Natural Resources program/FFA. One station was sponsored by Van Buren County Farm Bureau. Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

Area Church Services

PAW PAW

ALMENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
27503 CR 375
Pastor Dan Phillips
668-2811
www.almenaumc.com
SUNDAY Worship - 11 a.m.
(Childcare Provided)
FRIDAY: AA- 8 p.m.

• • • •

COVEY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
33566 28th Avenue
(corner of 28th & M-40)
269-628-2139
www.coveyhill.org
Pastor Daniel Wilson
SUNDAY Worship 10:45am
Nursery & Children's Church provided
Messages available on YouTube

• • • •

FAITH OF THE APOSTLES CURCH
34580 M-40 Highway
Elder David Harn
1 (269) 512-4586
SUNDAY
Christian Education - 10 a.m.
Wroship Service - 11:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY • Bible Study - 7 p.m.

• • • •

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
32464 Red Arrow
Pastor Horace M. "Buddy" Turner... 657-2090
SUNDAY Worship - 11 a.m.
on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/buddyturner2 or search: "Buddy Turner"

• • • •

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
120 Pine St, Paw Paw
Worship: 10am every Sunday in person or online at - www.pawpawpres.com or www.youtube.com/@1stpre-spawpaw

• • • •

NEW HOPE FAMILY
201 W. Michigan Avenue
Pastor Dan Webb
www.newhopefellowship.org
SUNDAY Morning Worship - 10 a.m.

• • • •

PAW PAW SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CURCH
60409 South M-40
Pastor Sean Reed
Lawn Services - 10am & 11am
www.pawpaw.church
Online worship services on Facebook & YourTube

• • • •

PAW PAW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
420 W. Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-7727
Pastor Dan Phillips
Sunday Service at 9:30 am

• • • •

RED ARROW MINISTRIES
31133 Red Arrow Highway
Rev. G. Ben Bowater, IV
Founding Pastor
SUNDAY Worship - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.redarrowministries.org for live stream worship

• • • •

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
412 Cedar Street
Handicap Accessible
657-3762 • www.stmarkpaw-paw.com
e-mail: stmarkspawpaw@gmail.com
SUNDAY Worship 9:30 a.m.

• • • •

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
500 Paw Paw Street
Fr. Dave Pinto
657-4459
Weekday:
Monday – no Mass
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:00 AM
Wednesday Mass – 9:00 AM
Saturday – 4:00 PM
Sunday – 11:00 AM

• • • •

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
721 Pine Street
Church: 657-4840
School: 657-5921
Sunday Services 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

• • • •

TRUTH CHURCH
32560 56th Ave. • 657-5042
www.truthchurchpawpaw.com
Pastor Steven Green
SUNDAY
School - 10 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
THURSDAY Bible Study - 7 p.m.

• • • •

IGLESIA DEL ESPÍRITU SANTO/ CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
30037 E Red Arrow Hwy.,
Pastors Maggie & Jay Salas
Domingo/Sunday: Adoración | Worship- 10 a.m.
Jueves/Thursday: Oracion/ Estudió Bíblico | Prayer/Bible Study- 7 p.m.
(269) 377-6514
(269) 993-6727

LAWRENCE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of Exchange & James Street • 674-8381
Pastor Doug Tipken
SUNDAY Worship - 11 a.m.
lawrencemethodist-church.org for information of online videos

GOBLES

NORTHPOINT MINISTRIES OF GOBLES
04077 M40
269-628-9199
northpointgobles@gmail.com
Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.
Sunday: 11am - Morning Worship
Monday: 7 pm - REFRESH Bible Study
Wednesday: 7pm - Prayer Meeting

• • • •

ST JUDE' MISSION PARISH
13809 M-40
269-628-2219
Thursday – 10:00 AM
Sunday – 9:00 AM

• • • •

GOBLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
210 E. Exchange St., Gobles
(269) 628-2263
Pastor Sheila F. Baker
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship
Children's Sunday School
Website: goblesumc.com
Facebook.com/goblesumc

MARCELLUS

ST. MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
296 E. Dibble St.
Rev. John Tran.
668-3312
Sunday - 9:45AM

• • • •

HARMONY CHAPEL
88067 C.R. 652 (In the SW corner of Porter Twp.)
Rev. Ron Packer
269-548-7348
Please join us as we continue to Worship in the Country Since 1894 , SUNDAY Service - 12:30 p.m.
For mor information or directions call: Neal Ferguson: 269-624-6837 or Ann Nesbitt: 269-624-6781

DECATUR

DECATUR BIBLE CHURCH
80797 M-51, Decatur
(269) 423-5111
Pastor Steven Pace
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 5:00 p.m.
facebook.com/Decatur-BibleChurch • http://www.decaturbible.org

• • • •

DECATUR NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
319 ½ West Delaware Street
Pastor Ross Tarantino
SUNDAY
Worship Service-10:00 a.m.
TUESDAY
Bible Study-1:00 p.m.
269-423-8136
info@decaturnewhopecommu-nity.net

LAWTON

DAILY HARVEST MINISTRIES
117 S.Franklin Street
Pastor Jack Shanley
SUNDAY Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study - 6 p.m.

• • • •

IGLESIA PENTECOSTES
Eel Movimiento misionero Mundial, Inc.
Bilingual
117 S. Franklin Street
Pastors Arturo & Lourdez Hernandez
(616) 656-0137
SERVICES
Domingo - 9:30 a.m.
Martes y Jueves - 7:30 p.m.
Local: (269) 655-8071

• • • •

LAWTON EVANGELICAL CHURCH
425 S. Nursery Street, Lawton • 624-1524
Call if you need help in some way
www.lawtonevan.com
SUNDAY Worship Services - 10 a.m.
We offer Nursery and Children's Church

• • • •

NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
502 N. Main Street, Lawton, MI 49065
Pastor Adam Potgiesser
Sunday Worship 10am
www.nc2online.com • face-book.com/nc2online
(269) 299-2003

• • • •

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
624-1050
Pastor Ashlei Horn
SUNDAY Worship - 10:00 a.m.
www.stpoulsumclawton.com or on Facebook www.Facebook.com/Lawton-St-Pauls-UMC

MATTAWAN

CALVARY COMMUNITY CHURCH
7829 S. 5th St
Pastor Gregory VanHeukelom
375-6240
www.calvaryreformed.org
Website: https://www.calva-ry-community.church/
Worship still 10 am Sunday with live Facebook
Jody's Closet, a free clothing ministry is open Mon/Tue 10am-12 and Thur 6-7:30pm And the 1st Saturday of the month 8:30-10am.

• • • •

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
56070 Murray Street
Pastor Chuck Rawsthorne
SUNDAY
School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
(In person and on Facebook)

• • • •

MATTAWAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
23680 Front Ave.
668-3263
www.mattawancc.com
mattawancommunitychurch@gmail.com
Pastor Eric Baird
Sundays at 10:25 a.m

• • • •

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH
23830 Front Ave.
Rev. John Tran
668-3312
www.stjbparish.com
Sunday Mass times to 8:00 AM & 11:30 AM Saturday Vigil 4:00PM

DIRECTORY OF CHURCH SERVICES IS PROVIDED BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

HIEMSTRA OPTICAL CO.
Michael Houser & staff
133 E. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • 657-4511

DE SMIA
Insurance Agency, INC.
130 N. Main Street
Lawton • 624-4411

BRONSON LakeView Hospital
408 Hazen Street
Paw Paw • 657-3141

CAMPBELL MURCH CEMETERY MEMORIALS, INC.
56556 Main Street
Mattawan • 668-3350

THE CLOTHES BASKET
314 Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw • 657-6441

ST JULIAN winery • distillery
Michigan's Oldest & Largest Winery
716 S. Kalamazoo Street
Paw Paw • 657-5568

Adams FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES
ADAMS FUNERAL HOME
Serving the Community Since 1948
504 W. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • 657-6347